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SEPTEMBER 1920

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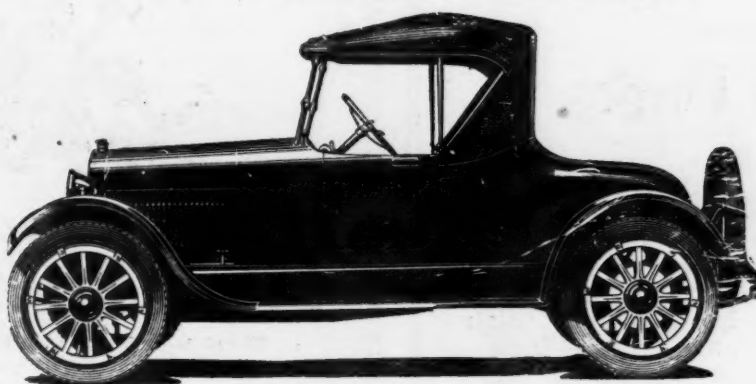
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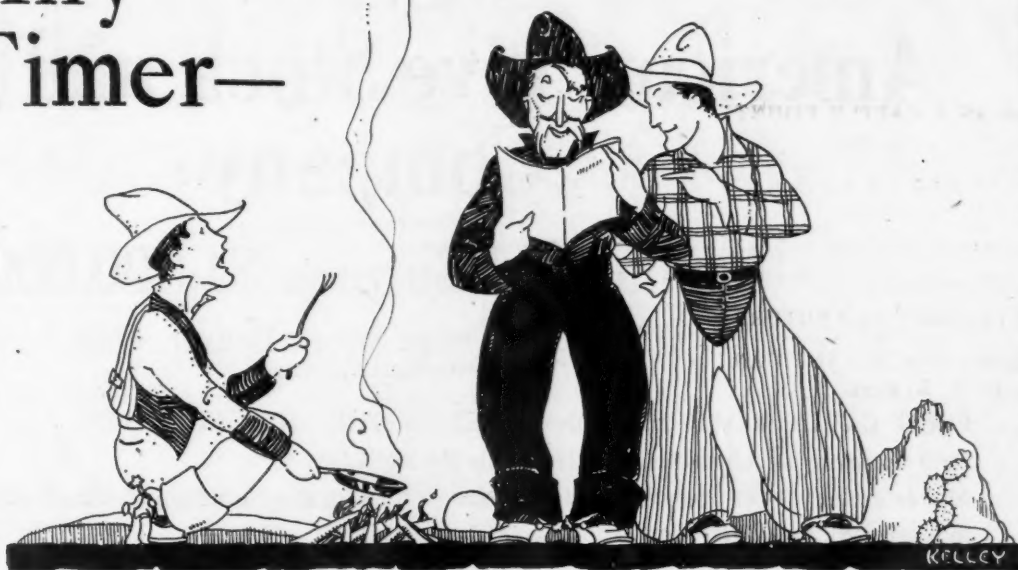
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N. M. Short, Dryden, Tex., made the record, both for price and weights, for the year at Fort Worth, with a load of 15 grass-fed Shorthorn steers, having an average weight of 1,475 pounds, and selling for \$13 per cwt.—an average of \$192.75 per head. Mr. Short also marketed a load the same day weighing 1,107 pounds for \$12.25 per cwt. These were strictly range Shorthorns.



Shorthorns topped the market for the week and the year July 20 at Chicago at \$17.25; this for a part of a load of yearlings weighing 1,076 pounds, bred and fed by Charles Trapp, Madison, Nebr., who received \$185.61 per head—this for yearlings. On the same day J. W. Lewis, Good Hope, Ill., sold a full load of Shorthorn yearlings weighing 870 pounds for \$17, or \$147.90 per head—this for yearlings.

On July 22 Baker Bros., Vermilion, Ill., who have been marketing Shorthorn beef for twenty-five years, sold 28 Shorthorn yearlings weighing 891 pounds for \$17, or \$151.47 per head—this for yearlings.

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THE PRODUCER

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MONTHLY

Volume II

DENVER, COLO., SEPTEMBER, 1920

Number 4

Cuba as a Cattle Country

BY F. E. LYKES*

Havana, Cuba

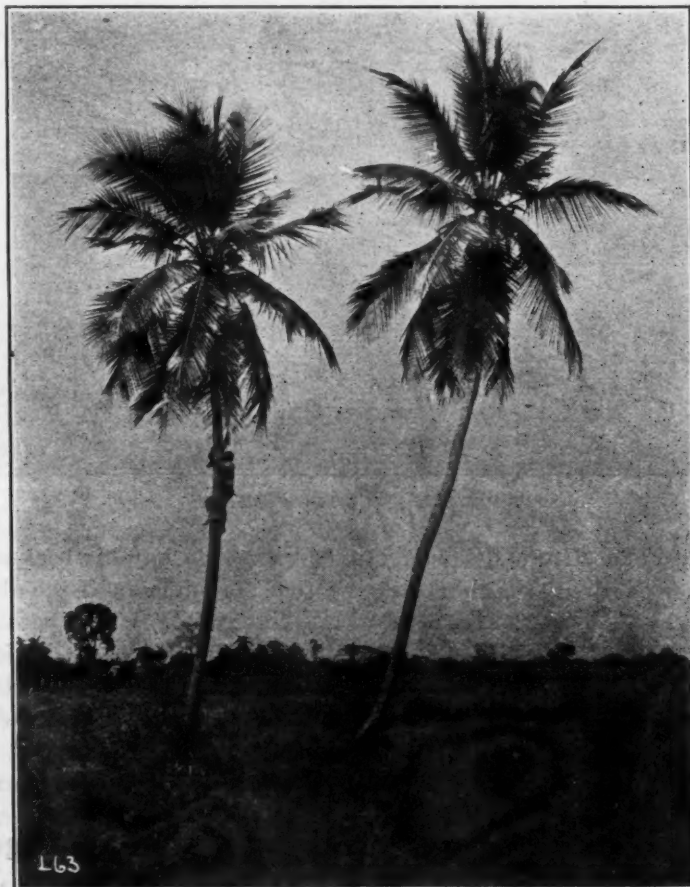
AS I SAT on the back of my cow pony, under the fragrant pines of Old Town, Florida, early one morning in the fall of 1898, watching six hundred four-year-old, eleven-dollar steers swim across the Suwanee River, little did I dream that the summer of 1920 would find me still in Cuba, importing cattle from Florida to be fattened on the wonderful guinea and parana grasses that grow so luxuriantly under the royal palms.

Between these two dates there was an interval in which Cuba raised sufficient cattle for her own needs. Now, however, owing to the unprecedented prosperity which the sugar industry has enjoyed for the past few years, we find that we are producing hardly enough beef to supply the increased demand of our growing population, and it has once more become

necessary for us to look to our neighbors to make up the deficiency. The past year this necessity has been aggravated by the lack of railroad cars in which to ship to Havana a sufficient number of cattle during the cane-grinding season.

Of the 5,000,000 head of cattle estimated to have been in Cuba prior to the revolution which led to the war between the United States and Spain, all but a small proportion were slaughtered, consumed, wasted, or destroyed by the Spanish soldiers and the Cuban insurgents. At the beginning of the United States military administration of Cuban affairs, in 1899, there were perhaps not more than 50,000 head of cattle scattered throughout the island. During the seven years following, cattle were imported in large numbers from Venezuela, Mexico, Colombia, Texas, Florida, Porto Rico, and Honduras.

Florida cattle, coming from the wire-grass hills and palmetto flats to hide themselves, like jack-



NUT-GATHERING IN CUBA

*[The writer of this article is president of the firm of Lykes Brothers, Inc., of Havana—the largest cattle-raisers in Cuba, controlling the biggest ranch on the island (the Candelaria, in Oriente Province), owning the most extensive killing-plant, and operating their own fleet of transport vessels. The seven brothers composing the firm are natives of Florida, and extended their operations to Cuba immediately following the Spanish-American War.—Editor.]

rabbits, in the tall, green guinea grass of Cuba, get fat more quickly than those from any other country—with the possible exception of Honduras—taking on 300 pounds in from six to eight months. Cattle from Venezuela make the strongest and best work-oxen, able to stand a large amount of hardship and rough treatment—an important factor in a country where practically all the plowing and hauling of produce from farms and plantations

The reason for this discrimination against fat steers and the preference for bull meat is that, Cuba having a tropical climate, man's digestive organs can take care of but little fat. When the cooks go to market they insist on having all the tallow, as well as the bone, trimmed off, buying only the lean meat; and, as the butcher can get but three and one-half cents per pound for the fat that costs him twenty-five cents or more, he naturally



PARANA AND GUINEA GRASS

are done by oxen. Those from Porto Rico and Colombia have many friends, due to their gentle disposition, their light-red color, and their desirable qualities as work-oxen. The Porto Rican cows, besides, are excellent milk-producers. Texas cattle are the best-bred, but the beef steers from that state are less popular on account of their excess of fat. Perhaps cattlemen in Texas will be surprised to know that the tops from the steers we are importing from Florida, which have no tallow at all, are sold for about the same price as those beautiful, high-grade Angus, Hereford, and Durham steers which we recently imported from Mr. I. T. Pryor's ranch.

endeavors to buy his beef with as little fat as possible. Often the butchers at the abattoir are bribed to trim off all kidney fat. I have been told that the custom of taking out the bone was initiated some thirty years ago, when there was a very active competition going on among the wholesale butchers in the Havana municipal abattoir. A reduction of about twenty-seven pounds was then made on all beeves weighing 350 pounds, and of thirteen pounds on those weighing less. Not until last year was this custom discontinued.

Choice steers which we have been receiving from Camaguey Province—the principal cattle-raising and

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grazing district of the island—have been dressing out about 4 per cent more than good Texas steers. This, however, is chiefly due to the fact that the former are weighed up before taking water after two or three days aboard the cars, while imported cattle are weighed as they leave the steamer, where they have hay and water during the voyage across the Gulf. For reasons already mentioned, the meat from Texas steers is sold for two

above cross have both breadth and depth, have short hair, mature very early (at thirty months), are strong and healthy, and are always the fattest cattle on the ranch. As a rule, they have no horns. This, in Cuba, is both an advantage and a disadvantage—an advantage because, on the ranch, they can give each other no flesh wounds, which immediately would be alive with worms, and because, when shipping in cars, they arrive at the



A WOODLAND PASTURE IN CUBA

or three cents per pound less than that from native steers.

For several years we have been experimenting on our ranch in Camaguey Province with the different breeds of cattle. The best result, from a beef standpoint, we have obtained from crossing pure-bred Angus bulls with half- and three-quarter-bred Zebu cows. This strain has given us not only quality, but quantity. From 160 cows of this cross (one-half Zebu) we have got, for three successive years, 100 per cent calves, while from the ordinary Cuban cows in an adjoining division we have got but 70 to 75 per cent. The calves from the

market free from bruises; a disadvantage in that, in Cuba, they are worthless for work-oxen, as the yoke is placed on the neck and fastened to the horns in such a way that the ox pushes against the load, while in the United States, with the bow around the neck, he pulls. Not all steers or bulls are suitable for oxen; for the horns have to be a certain shape in order that the yoke may be properly fitted to them. For this reason steers for oxen are sold at premiums of from \$10 to \$30 per head.

As no doubt is the case in all countries, some ranches in Cuba will put on more weight than others. On ours we have grown steers that average 1,000 pounds at thirty

months. However, the average weight of the fat three-year-old steers we buy is about 900 pounds, weighed full on pasture. In Cuba the ranches are under good four-to five-strand wire fences, with numerous divisions that hold from 200 to 500 steers each. The smaller these are, the more of the grass is consumed, and therefore the greater is the capacity. Especially are the small divisions advisable today when good ranches are being sold

to get the best results, it is advisable to have good guinea and parana grass to put them on during the winter and dry spring months. Today it costs about \$25 per acre to make a good parana or guinea grass pasture for fattening steers. First the underbrush is cut with machetes; then the guinea grass seed is sown, if on high ground, or small bunches of parana grass are stuck into holes three feet apart, made with a short pole with the end sharp-



TYPICAL CUBAN LANDSCAPE

at around \$3,500 per *caballeria* (33½ acres), or a little more than \$100 per acre. Not all ranch-owners can afford to stock their ranches with cattle. In such cases it is, however, easy to find a man who will supply the money to buy steers, and the owner of the ranch fattens them for 60 per cent of the profit—all expenses to be paid out of this amount.

There are ranch lands in Cuba with native, or *pajilla*, grass, but such lands are good only for raising cattle, as this grass has but little fattening value. Cows, however, will breed better on this grass. If kept all the year around on fattening pastures, they become too fat. But,

ened, if on low land. After this operation all trees thirty inches or less in circumference are cut down and left lying on the ground. Twelve months later the grass is thick through the dead treetops and brush, and during the spring, when dry, it is all burned off. Three months later one can put the cattle on. Not so many, however, are put on as the following year; for this grass must be left to go to seed, and it is not until the following year that one really has his pasture. Thus, if properly done, this operation requires about two and a half to three years to get the desired results.

Ranches with good lands, well watered, divided

into small divisions, will fatten about one steer to the acre; though, in order to keep the pasture in good condition, free of weeds, brush, and native grass, not more than twenty head to thirty acres should be allowed.

If the reader wishes to see hundreds of acres in guinea or parana grass from three to six feet high, filled with fat cattle, with royal palms here and there, and beautiful mountains in the background, and to feel the balmy sea breeze against his face, we invite him to our Candelaria Ranch, near Bayamo, in Oriente Province. Like many others who have seen it, we think this ranch the best on the island; but almost any one of the good

ranches in Cuba might be called a "cattle's paradise." There is an abundance to eat and drink (for man as well as beast) all the year around, no insects, practically no ticks, and, if cattle are properly attended to, no disease worthy of mention, especially if the precaution of vaccinating young cattle against anthrax is taken in due time. If the present sugar prices should continue but a few years longer, there will perhaps be no cattle industry left in Cuba; but no doubt Poland and Germany will in a year or two begin to export beet sugar again, when the less productive cane-fields will be allowed to grow into nice, juicy, fattening grasses.

Grazing Value of National-Forest Lands

BY E. H. CRABB

Flagstaff, Arizona

EVER SINCE the creation of the national forests their use for grazing purposes has been a very much misunderstood and misrepresented phase of their administration, and the fees charged by the government for this privilege have led to many controversies as to its actual value to stockmen.

At first the occupants of the range were allowed to graze their stock free of charge; then a small fee was imposed; and the rate of this fee has been advanced spasmodically ever since, almost without exception as a result of the clamorings of some members of Congress, unfamiliar with western conditions, who ignorantly assumed that stockmen were growing rich at the expense of the government, and who characterized the users of the ranges as "cattle barons" and the stock associations as "millionaire cattlemen's clubs." For the benefit of those who demand that the stockmen pay the deficit in the administration of a great national resource, created and intended under the law to be so administered that future generations may enjoy its use, it should be said that stock-raisers' associations were formed in order that the live-stock industry of the West might be preserved, and the misapplication of justice at the hands of departmental officials has done more to keep these associations alive and growing than all the rest of the troubles of stockmen combined.

Users of the national forests learned with alarm of the attempt made by certain members of the House of Representatives, who, on February 10 last, in committee of the whole, proposed amendments to the agricultural appropriation bill which, if adopted, would have increased the present grazing fee by 300 per cent. This action was apparently prompted by a comparison of the forest ranges with privately owned pastures, on the assumption that users of the national forests were reaping an advantage over the feeders who fatten their cattle on eastern pastures.

Live-stock producers, without exception, are opposed to any increase whatever in the fee now charged. They sincerely believe that the present rate is already higher than conditions warrant, and that an open, competitive bidding system would prove that they are now paying more than the actual value of the privilege. It must be understood that the stockmen are not advocating the inauguration of such a bidding system; but if the above-mentioned members of Congress wish quickly, easily, and accurately to appraise the value of these lands, why don't they suggest that they be awarded to the highest bidder—just as the timber is, and just as the grass pastures of Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas are?

If they have taken the trouble to study the policy of the department administering the forest lands, these gentlemen ought to know that such a move would absolutely reverse that policy and completely destroy the purpose of the act of June 11, 1906, known as the Forest Home-stead Act. They should also know that every grazing regulation promulgated has been so framed as to further the purpose of that act, that these regulations have many ramifications, and that they are extremely far-reaching in their effect on stockmen using the forests under a recognized priority right.

The instructions issued by the Department of Agriculture governing grazing on the forests form a very small part of a very small book intended to cover conditions as wide as this great country. Hence the detailed administration of our forests is left to the discretion of the local supervisor, who in many cases is entirely unfamiliar with the forest which he has to govern. This, in turn, accounts to a large extent for mistakes made—mistakes which often cause the stockmen great loss, and from which the loser sometimes has no appeal or chance for redress.

In the State of Arizona the government controls not over one-third of the grazing resources of the national

forests. This is due to the fact that, before the forests were created, stockmen owned all the important permanent water which could be advantageously used for grazing purposes. Without this water the range is useless from a grazing standpoint. Among the government regulations is one providing that stockmen shall develop sufficient water where any is needed. This in most cases has been done. But, upon the completion of this work—done on government land in order that his stock might utilize previously unusable range (for which privilege

on government land, and is now the property of the government. The permittee, who constructed it, and who is operating it, at his own expense, furnishes water for everybody's cattle now using the range. On the national forests of Arizona there are hundreds of miles of drift-fences, constructed by cattlemen at an average cost of about \$200 per mile. These fences they not only built and paid for, but must maintain. Yet they are the property of the United States, and were constructed in order that a greater utilization of the range might result.



CATTLE-BRANDING TIME
Coconino National Forest, Arizona

he now pays, in Arizona, one dollar per head per annum)—the stockman sees the property revert to the government. He may not even close the gates around it, if he should so desire; on the other hand, he *must* close the gates during certain seasons, depending on the ruling of the forest officials.

There have been expended by grazing permittees on the national forests of Arizona hundreds of thousands of dollars in such improvements, which were a gift to the government. To illustrate: On the Coconino Forest is the deepest well in the United States drilled and used exclusively for watering range cattle. This well has cost the permittee more than \$10,000. It was drilled

For whose benefit? Clearly for the benefit of the government. Without these fences, overgrazing in certain areas would result—which would mean a decided decrease in the number of cattle that the forests would support. It must not be forgotten that the grazing on the national forests pays into the United States Treasury a net return of \$1,500,000 annually.

This enormous cost to the stockmen of the necessary improvements which make the national-forest ranges usable—the cost of first construction, the cost of maintenance, and the very uncertainty of their continued use—is a very heavy load that need not be borne by users of privately owned land. It must be remembered, too,

that an outfit which has improved the range cannot transfer its entire privilege to a purchaser. This, in some instances, would mean that the purchaser could not get a preference renewal of over 50 per cent of the stock purchased, and would result in doubling the amount of the overhead expense on the number allowed, making a sale prohibitive.

The \$50,000 appropriated by Congress for range-improvement work on the forests is a joke, and could not even be considered as a sop when distributed among the 140-odd forests of the United States. More than that sum of money is annually spent on any grazing forest in Arizona by the users.

It is safe to assume that these gentlemen who would advance the fees know but little, if anything, of what I shall call the three big P's—Poverty, Predatory Animals, and Poisonous Plants. Absolutely accurate records, covering a period of ten years, prove most conclusively that these three big P's exact a toll of 8 per cent per annum of the breeding cattle on the national forests. This means that in twelve and a half years the producer loses a number of animals equal to his entire herd.

What causes the first of these three—Poverty? Eighty per cent of the poverty loss is caused by forest regulations which will not permit the user to handle the range in such a manner as to insure the protection of his stock.

And what about Predatory Animals? Lobo wolves, mountain lions, bears, and coyotes have not decreased on the range during the past five years—in some locations they have increased. It is estimated, by men who have studied their habits, that one lobo wolf will destroy in a single year \$3,000 worth of cattle. And the national forests are the breeding-grounds for these destructive animals. Yet the department would appropriate only \$25,000 for the extermination of all kinds of predatory animals in the whole State of Arizona—and that only on the condition that the state appropriates a like sum. Stockmen on the forests of Arizona are compelled to hire, at their own expense, professional trappers to protect their stock, the funds from the government and state appropriations proving totally inadequate to carry on the work.

Of Poisonous Plants a whole volume might be written, but to mention loco, aconite, larkspur, pingue, and milkweed is sufficient for anyone familiar with these weeds through actual experience. Some years ago, on one of Arizona's largest forests, an effort was made by the stockmen to prevent the movement of live stock from a loco-infested range to a clean range; but the Forest Service regulations would not permit any such restriction, and as a consequence there are ranges now well seeded to loco which at that time were free from the weed. Many stockmen lost thousands of cattle from loco alone during the past winter and spring, and will lose several dollars per head on other thousands through the decreased value of stock affected by this plant.



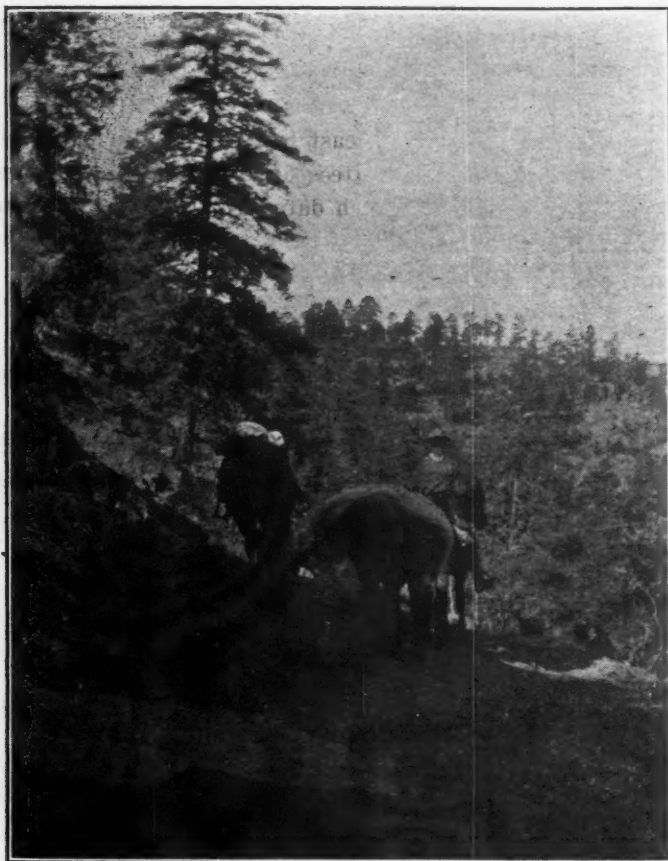
WATER IMPOUNDED FOR STOCK USE
National Forest, Arizona

The type of bulls now being used on the Arizona range will average in cost, at time of maturity and adaptability, \$300 per head. National-forest range is the roughest part of the state. Some of it is densely covered with young growth and underbrush, which makes it the most difficult range imaginable on which to "bull up" a breeding herd. Breeders who obtain the best results use one bull for each ten or fifteen cows—averaging about one bull to twelve cows. This means an overhead expense on breeding-cows of \$25 per animal, which is about three times what it would be in a grass pasture. Yet the Forest Service has not been anxious to allow pastures of sufficient size to hold these valuable animals where they might be watched and cared for, if necessary. The calf crop on the forests will not average over 60 per cent, while in grass pastures the percentage of increase will be 90 per cent or more.

Live stock shipped from national-forest loading-points in Arizona is from six to eight days removed from the Kansas City market, and it could not be fairly said that the forage, even if of the same class and utilized under the same conditions, is as valuable as that within a few hours' run of a market. As a matter of fact, it



TYPICAL SUMMER RANGE
Colorado Slope, Coconino National Forest



TYPICAL BROKEN COUNTRY OF ARIZONA FOREST
Breeding Ground for Wild Animals

takes thirty times as large an area to support live stock on an Arizona forest as it does in the average grass pastures of the eastern states. Thus stock is compelled to travel many times as far for forage as is necessary in eastern pastures.

In favorable seasons, when the ranges would carry much more stock than ordinarily permitted, the user is not allowed to avail himself of the opportunity to put more stock on the range, except with the consent of the forest officers, who, in most cases, have had no experience in the handling of range stock, and who are not familiar with the ranges. In dry seasons, when the stock should not be permitted on the ranges in ordinary numbers, the wishes of the permittee are again subject to the decision of these officers, and the question of a refund of the fees already paid on the number removed is entirely in the hands of departmental employees. True, if the permittee is not satisfied with their decision, he can appeal to the Secretary of Agriculture; but a large majority of users hesitate to carry any matter over the head of the local officer.

The grazing value of the different forests, and even of different districts in the same forest, varies greatly, and any flat increase in the fees made in the past has been an injustice to a large number of users.

Fire protection on the forest is one of the principal items of expense; yet it is a well-known fact that, if all live stock were removed from these areas, the fire menace

would be doubled or trebled, and a fire once started would be doubly hard to control. Permittees and their employees are subject to call at all times for fire duty in their districts, without pay, regardless of how important to themselves their own tasks may be.

If Congress has an earnest wish to make the Forest Service self-supporting, or pay a dividend into the Treasury, such a condition can be brought about without placing an undue burden upon any industry or individual.

Stockmen have no fault to find with the present policy of the Department of Agriculture in its administration of the national forests, as long as this policy is consistently and equitably carried out; but they do most vigorously object to any scheme tending to burden them with the expense of a government department established for the public good, without some compensating consideration, and without a very thorough survey of the question in all its phases.

ADVANCE IN GRAZING FEES ON NATIONAL FORESTS

BY VICTOR CULBERSON

Silver City, New Mexico

A GREAT DEAL has been said relative to the proposed increase in grazing fees on the national forests. Being an occupant of the national forest of New Mexico, I often wonder if our eastern representatives, who are the advocates of this proposed increase, stop to consider the difference in the value of grazing on the national forests and grazing on privately owned lands. During the early settlement of this country the most desirable areas were taken up prior to the creation of the national forests. I should like to call the attention of our eastern representatives to a few items which will demonstrate the difference in the cost of production of cattle on and off the forests. I believe that I am able to speak from practical experience, as my company operates a property, some distance from the forest, which is all on privately owned or leased land.

To produce a given number of calves, it requires, on the forests, three times the number of bulls, due to the fact that the forest lands are of a rough topography, which prevents the cattle from congregating at the waters.

On privately owned lands, or on smoother lands, a mount of horses consists of six head; while on the forests, due to the roughness of the country, it is necessary to have at least twelve head to each man. Furthermore, it is necessary that all horses be well shod at all times of the year, which is not the case on smoother ranges.

Double the amount of labor is required to handle the same number of cattle as off the forests.

Salt is an important item to be taken into consideration, inasmuch as cattle on the forests subsist largely on brush (oak and mahogany), thus requiring much

more salt than on a purely grass range. It must also be borne in mind that the distribution of this salt involves a considerable expense on account of the necessity of handling it on pack mules. The same is true of all provisions for the various camps.

We must not lose sight of the fact that nearly all occupants of the forests from time to time spend large sums of money in developing the waters on their allotments, bringing into use acre after acre of land now carrying cattle, earning revenue for the government, which prior to development was absolutely worthless, so far as grazing was concerned.

The predatory animals are the largest problem with which the forest permittees have to contend. It is true that the Biological Survey is doing great work in trying to exterminate these animals; but, as the Survey is not

able to put sufficient men in the field to handle the situation, it becomes necessary for the occupants to fight the beasts by paying large bounties to trappers.

I think that, in all fairness to the occupants of the forests, they should at least be given a hearing before the Agricultural Committees of Congress pass on these matters. I believe enough data can be produced to impress upon the members of the committees the essential injustice of any increase in the fees.

The New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers' Association has appointed a committee of five to make a study of the production of cattle on and off the forests. In my judgment, this investigation should cover a period of at least three years—five years would be still better—in order to arrive at an average of the real cost.

Our Present and Future Live-Stock Supplies

THE AUGUST NUMBER of the *Monthly Crop Reporter*, published by the Bureau of Crop Estimates of the Department of Agriculture, contains two very important tabulations—one showing the birth-rates of cattle and hogs during the first half of 1920, and the other exhibiting the supply of live stock in the United States on July 1 of this year. Both tables are worthy of the most careful study by everyone interested in the live-stock industry, since in graphic manner they illustrate the growing tendency among stock-raisers to curtail production on account of unsatisfactory returns. If the period of unprofitable net results should continue, there will undoubtedly be a further shrinkage in production.

Decrease in Birth-Rate

Detailed figures relative to the changes in the birth-rates among cattle and hogs during each of the first six months of 1920 are presented, with an explanatory summary as follows:

The birth-rate of calves on farms of the United States reporting to the Bureau of Crop Estimates in June was 10 per cent smaller than in June, 1919; the corresponding reductions in preceding months being 22 per cent less in May, 23 per cent less in April, and 19 per cent less in March. For the first half of this year the birth-rate averaged 20 per cent less than for the first half of 1919. The birth-rate of pigs in June was 8 per cent less than for June, 1919; the reductions in preceding months being 25 per cent less in May, 12 per cent less in April, and 8 per cent less in March. For the first half of this year the birth-rate was 13 per cent less than in the same period in 1919.

In the same table are shown, by percentages, the numbers of head of cattle and hogs brought on and shipped off farms, farm slaughter, death losses, and the remaining percentages on July 1, 1920, compared with a year ago.

The August issue of *THE PRODUCER* contained an article entitled "The Bureau of Crop Estimates," in which the assistant chief of that bureau sets forth the

method used in arriving at such estimates and the tested reliability of the results obtained.

Live-Stock Supply on July 1, 1920

The decrease in the birth-rate of live stock is reflected in the supply on hand July 1. We quote in full the statement from the *Monthly Crop Reporter* as to that supply:

Returns to the Bureau of Crop Estimates indicate that on July 1, 1920, the number of hogs in the United States was 16.6 per cent less than on July 1, 1919; the number of cattle, 7.7 per cent less; and the number of sheep, 3.3 per cent less.

These percentages are based upon reports of individual farm holdings on the two dates mentioned, from nearly 50,000 farms taken more or less at random throughout the United States and assumed to be representative of all farms. The actual totals of the farms reporting, and percentage changes, by classes of live stock, are given below:

	Number on Farms Reporting July 1		Change		
	1920	1919	1919-20	1918-19	1917-18
Hogs—			<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>
Over 6 months old.....	397,669	493,521	-19.4	-8.5	-2.6
Under 6 months old....	533,155	623,184	-14.5	-3.0	+7.7
Total	930,824	1,116,705	-16.6	-5.3	+3.3
Cows	487,756	526,624	-7.4	-0.8	+0.6
Heifers	168,988	172,321	-1.3	+6.6	+12.3
Cows and heifers	656,744	698,945	-6.0	+1.2	+3.6
Calves	261,119	284,252	-8.2	+1.1	+5.1
Steers	186,553	212,719	-17.0	-0.6	+2.5
Bulls	95,621	104,890	-8.8	+2.8	+4.9
Total cattle	1,200,037	1,300,806	-7.7	+1.0	+3.8
Sheep	736,623	762,119	-3.3	+10.0	+12.7

Attention is directed to the percentages given for the period 1917-18, which show an increase in the supply of all classes of live stock (except hogs over six months old) on July 1, 1918, compared with July 1, 1917. In the following year hogs show a decrease, cattle a slight increase, and sheep a marked increase (the increase in the lamb crop of that year is indicated in the record marketing during 1918). On July 1, 1920, all live stock

shows a decrease. In the case of steers the estimated decrease is 17 per cent—fully confirming the general opinion as to the relative scarcity of that class of stock. (The decrease in supplies is also reflected in the current marketing so far this year.)

Our readers are cautioned against misconstruing these percentage changes; they refer to July 1 of the years named, and cannot be correctly applied to the annual estimates of the Department of Agriculture as to the number of head of live stock in the United States on January 1 of each year. Owing to the breeding and birth seasons, the supply of live stock is always greater on July 1 than on January 1—just how much greater depends on the marketing between those two dates. Therefore, while these percentages cannot be accurately applied to the estimated live-stock population on January 1, they do unmistakably indicate the trend in live-stock supply, and presage a pronounced reduction in the number of head of live stock on hand January 1, 1921.

Taking into consideration all the known factors, and allowing for a normal marketing of the present supplies during the rest of this year, it would appear that on January 1, 1921, there will be approximately 6,000,000 fewer cattle, 14,000,000 fewer hogs, and 1,500,000 fewer sheep and lambs than on January 1, 1920. The reduction in cattle will be mainly confined to the beef type, with but little, if any, change in the number of milk cows. On the basis of this estimate, the cattle supply on January 1, 1921, should recede to about the number on hand January 1, 1916, the swine population to the 1914 level, and sheep to the 1917 estimate.

The official census figures on live stock as of January 1, 1920, now being compiled, will be available late this fall. They may differ somewhat from the estimates of the Department of Agriculture as of the same date, but cannot appreciably alter the probable reduction during 1920.

Live-Stock Supply in Previous Years

For ready reference we show below the estimates of the Department of Agriculture of the numbers of cattle, sheep, and swine in the United States on January 1 of the years indicated:

Year	Milk Cows	Other Cattle	Total Cattle	Sheep	Swine
1913	20,497,000	36,030,000	56,527,000	51,482,000	61,178,000
1914	20,737,000	35,855,000	56,592,000	49,719,000	58,934,000
1915	21,262,000	37,067,000	58,329,000	49,956,000	64,618,000
1916	22,108,000	39,812,000	61,920,000	48,615,000	67,766,000
1917	22,894,000	41,689,000	64,583,000	47,616,000	67,503,000
1918	23,310,000	44,112,000	67,422,000	48,603,000	70,978,000
1919	23,467,000	44,399,000	67,866,000	49,863,000	75,587,000
1920	23,747,000	44,385,000	68,132,000	48,615,000	72,909,000

The largest numbers on record were:

Cattle (1907)	72,534,000
Sheep (1903)	63,964,000
Swine (1919)	75,587,000

This table illustrates the expansion in the production of cattle and swine to meet the world requirements incident to the war. With the passing of that period a contraction in supplies became necessary. The transi-

tion has been going on for over a year, but its effect has been more noticeable during the past eight months. It may extend to unreasonable limits—depending entirely on prices for live stock and on the attitude of financial interests toward live-stock paper. Should the banks and the Federal Reserve Board force a liquidation of cattle this fall, and fail to take care of normal feeding operations, the predicted decrease in supplies next January will be much greater, and might easily reach a calamitous figure.

Exports of Meat Products

It is impossible to gauge the effect of the decrease in our live stock without taking into account our diminishing export trade in meat products. Below is a statement of our exports of beef and pork products during the calendar years 1913 to 1919, inclusive, which is self-explanatory:

	Beef Products (Pounds)	Hog Products (Pounds)
1913	168,092,792	1,084,478,587
1914	183,353,943	890,879,041
1915	518,977,682	1,430,267,092
1916	378,225,426	1,501,108,710
1917	394,134,285	1,347,003,757
1918	782,234,827	2,294,674,034
1919	408,577,586	2,762,597,414

For the half-year period ending June 30, 1920, our exports of these products were:

Beef	146,917,255 pounds
Pork	830,867,997 pounds

If this rate is maintained during the remainder of the year, the total for 1920 will be:

Beef	293,834,510 pounds
Pork	1,661,735,994 pounds

Representing a shrinkage in volume, compared with 1919, of

Beef	114,743,076 pounds
Pork	1,100,861,420 pounds

However, it is more likely that our exports of these products will not maintain the same volume during the last six months of 1920. Allowing for the probable decrease in the ratio, we estimate that the total shrinkage for 1920, compared with 1919, will be approximately:

Beef	150,000,000 pounds
Pork	1,400,000,000 pounds

This estimated decrease in our exports of meat products for 1920 as compared with 1919, converted into terms of live animals on the basis of a carcass weight of 600 pounds on cattle and 175 pounds on hogs, would represent 250,000 cattle and 8,000,000 hogs.

Hogs

The year 1919 witnessed our largest exports of pork products, aggregating 2,762,597,414 pounds—equivalent to about 15,500,000 hogs. Estimates of our total production of pork products, including farm and other uninspected slaughter, differ very materially, but a composite average of all estimates indicates that during 1919 our exports of pork products represented about 24 per cent of our total domestic production.

For the first half of 1920 our exports of pork products declined very sharply as compared with 1919, and it

is probable that for the whole calendar year of 1920 they will not amount to more than one-half of the volume of 1919. This would be equivalent to approximately 7,750,000 hogs.

For the ten years previous to 1913 our exports of pork products averaged from 1,000,000,000 to 1,100,000,000 pounds annually—about the same as the exports of 1913. It is practically certain that during 1921, or shortly thereafter, our exports of these products will return to the pre-war level. This would mean a shrinkage of 1,700,000,000 pounds as compared with 1919, or the product of about 10,000,000 hogs.

Our estimate that there will be approximately 14,000,000 fewer hogs on January 1, 1921, than on the same date this year will, if our domestic consumption remains substantially the same, about equalize the probable decrease in our exports for 1921. Therefore, as far as hog production is concerned, this country seems to be practically back on the pre-war basis. Any change in the present outlook, toward either expansion or contraction, will have the usual effect on prices.

Cattle

Our exports of beef products during the war period reached the peak during 1918, when they aggregated 782,234,827 pounds—equivalent, on the basis of a carcass weight of 600 pounds, to 1,300,000 cattle. For 1919 our exports of these products represented the equivalent of 680,000 cattle, and for 1920 our probable export will represent about 400,000 cattle.

Of our total annual production of beef and veal during these three years, our exports amounted to approximately 7.8 per cent for 1918 and 4 per cent for 1919, and will probably be about 2.5 per cent for 1920.

For the period 1911-1914, inclusive, our exports of beef products (exclusive of oleo oil) fell very much below the volume of the ten previous years. In 1913 and 1914, following the passage of the Underwood free-list bill, there were importations of fresh beef into the United States which more than offset our slender exports.

Our export trade in beef products during the years 1904 to 1908 averaged about 500,000,000 pounds annually. During 1913 they amounted, as shown above, to 168,092,792 pounds. Considering the world supply of cattle, it is improbable that our exports of beef products will in the immediate future return to the 500,000,000-pound basis of 1904-1908. It is more likely that they will settle down to an annual average of around 200,000,000 pounds, of which oleo oil will constitute an important part. This would represent about 2 per cent of our total domestic production of beef and veal products.

If the predicted decrease of 6,000,000 head in our cattle supply on January 1, 1921, as compared with 1920, eventuates, it will mean about 2,000,000 fewer head for slaughter in 1921. During 1919 our total slaughter of cattle and calves decreased approximately 1,000,000 head, compared with 1918; for 1920 the de-

crease, compared with 1919, will be around 700,000 head, and it may be more if liquidation becomes rampant.

As previously stated, our exports of beef products during 1920 are estimated to represent about 400,000 cattle. If exports of these products should decrease to nil during 1921, it would still leave this country with an estimated shortage of 1,600,000 head for slaughter during 1921, compared with 1920—provided the figures of the Bureau of Crop Estimates as to the decrease in the birth-rate and the available supplies are correct.

For the year ending March 31, 1920, Canada exported to the United States 515,525 head of cattle—the largest number on record. It is doubtful whether Canada will be in position to export that number during 1921. Mexico has great possibilities in cattle production, but even under stable conditions exports of cattle from that country to the United States cannot be enlarged for several years. Imports of beef products from Argentina, Brazil, and Australia are unknown factors.

If our premises and deduction are reasonably correct, the supply of cattle in the United States is fast approaching the figures for 1913-1915, when this country had about 35,000,000 to 37,000,000 head of beef cattle, compared with the 44,000,000 head estimated for 1918, 1919, and 1920.

Notwithstanding this impending shortage, thin steer cattle for further finishing, young heifers, and cow stuff are selling on all the markets at bargain-counter prices—below the cost of production—and the net returns spell ruin to many stockmen.

During the past summer there was more good range not utilized than has been the case for many years. Those who had the grass could not get the money to stock up. Unless the banks and the Federal Reserve Board change their policy and finance the feeders in the Corn Belt, there will be a tremendous carry-over of corn, hay, and other fodder.

Sheep

Twenty years ago our exports of heavy mutton were a factor in the market, but during the past decade there has been no appreciable export movement of sheep or lambs, either alive or in the carcass. Hence the sheep and lamb situation in the United States is not complicated by any reduction in exports of such products. However, a serious menace confronts the sheep industry in the importation of lamb from Australia and New Zealand. The uncertainty as to how much will come and how long the movement will continue is the big disturbing element. It is reported that 1,500,000 carcasses have been contracted for shipment to the United States. So far about 500,000 have reached our shores, which have mostly gone into consumption. If 1,500,000 carcasses are received here during 1920, it would represent about 7.5 per cent added to our domestic supply of mutton and lamb for this year. Prices on foot declined out of all proportion to the probable increased supply.

Based on the government estimate, there should be a

reduction in the supply of sheep and lambs in this country on January 1, 1921, of approximately 1,500,000 head, compared with January 1, 1920. Whether this contraction will be increased depends upon the volume of the imports and upon the wool market, which at present is distressingly unsatisfactory.

* * *

Under most adverse conditions, stockmen enlarged their production of meat-food animals to meet the necessities of the war. At no time did they enjoy what are referred to as war profits. If stockmen would today balance their books for the period commencing with the appeals of our government for increased production,

many would find that they were worse off than before, some would break even, and perhaps a few would be "to the good." On account of high retail prices for meat products, the consuming public believes that stockmen have been making heaps of money. This is not so; but it seems difficult, if not impossible, to convince the general public, as well as our government officials, of that fact. The dwindling of our live-stock supplies demonstrates it beyond question; and, unless there comes a quick realization of the situation, coupled with some affirmative action on the part of the Federal Reserve Board and Congress toward the protection of the live-stock industry, the decrease is bound to continue.

Supervision of Canadian Live-Stock Yards

BY W. R. REEK

Assistant Live-Stock Commissioner, Ottawa, Canada

LIVE-STOCK YARDS are situated at Toronto and Montreal in the east, and at Winnipeg, Calgary, and Edmonton in the west. New yards have recently been organized at Moose Jaw and Prince Albert in Saskatchewan. The yards had developed according to the demand of the community which they served, and the methods employed for doing business were governed largely by the customs in vogue in the particular district in which each yard was situated. Consequently there was a lack of uniformity of methods, and the rules formulated by the exchanges were not sufficiently comprehensive, nor did they exclude certain practices detrimental to good trading. Indications of widespread dissatisfaction became evident, and, with a view to remedying the situation, steps were taken by the Live-Stock Branch of the Federal Department of Agriculture to inaugurate such a system of supervision as would induce closer business relations and establish confidence between producers, on the one hand, and yard companies, commission men, and packers, on the other. Conferences were arranged with delegates representing the various interests, and a basis for government supervision was agreed upon.

The result was the Live-Stock and Live-Stock Products Act, passed by the Canadian Parliament in 1917. This act, which has now been in successful operation for over a year, gives power to the Minister of Agriculture to make regulations governing—

- (a) The manner in which stock-yards are to be constructed, equipped, maintained, and operated;
- (b) The manner in which complaints against commission merchants and the operation, maintenance, or management of stock-yards shall be made and investigated;
- (c) The manner in which live stock, meat, poultry, eggs, and wool shall be inspected, graded, and branded or marked;
- (d) The manner in which live-stock products imported into Canada shall be inspected, graded, branded, or marked.

Furthermore, the act states that there shall be an

exchange in connection with each stock-yard, and provides that all commission merchants must be members of such. The by-laws of these exchanges must be approved by the minister, and each commission merchant must furnish a bond satisfactory to the Department of Agriculture. No stock-yard is entitled to operate until the by-laws, schedule of fees, and charges have been approved by the minister.

The regulations became effective August 18, 1919, and at present the department and the exchanges are endeavoring so to perfect the by-laws that all trading will meet with the approval of parties legitimately interested.

Regulations governing the construction and operation of the yards have been passed. These provide for adequate accommodation for the transaction of all business reasonably to be anticipated; sufficient platform space, chutes, and pens to permit prompt unloading and loading; reasonable protection for live stock against weather conditions; ample light by day and night; running water; accommodation for all persons having business to transact at the yards; office accommodation, at a reasonable rental, to commission merchants, dealers, and buyers; weigh-scales. The responsibility of the stock-yard company relative to unloading, weighing, feeding, watering, injuring, insuring, etc., of live stock is very clearly and concisely outlined.

Canadian stock-yards are owned by railroads, packers, private companies, and co-operative organizations; but all are subject to the same supervision. Consequently it matters but little who controls the investment, provided the regulations are enforced.

Live-stock exchanges have been established on all except the two new yards. Their by-laws must be approved by the minister before any commission man is required to be bound by them. Methods of sale of stock through commission men, speculators, and others, as

well as all the necessary trading charges, are covered thoroughly by the provisions of the act. The method of dealing with those who insist upon violating the regulations is clearly outlined, and a system for appealing to the minister has been arranged. Canadian exchange rules are similar in principle to those adopted by the American exchanges.

When the government accepts the bond for \$10,000 from any commission firm, it also accepts a responsibility to protect such a firm, unless it is found guilty of misdemeanors under the by-laws of the exchange. The producer is protected by the regulations governing the yard management and the sale of the stock, and all charges connected therewith. The packer has the opportunity to purchase on a public market from the agent of the producer.

Representatives of the Live-Stock Branch are placed upon all yards, whose principal duty is the enforcement of the act. In addition, they are markets-intelligence officers, which feature of the work is rapidly growing in importance. The information being collected by them and compiled at Ottawa is proving of sufficient value to warrant the expenditure involved in the entire reform.

When the market is established for the day, the agent at each yard immediately wires a concise report to the agents at other yards. In this way, shortly after noon each agent has the Canadian situation in hand, and, in addition, arrangements have been made whereby special wires are received from Buffalo, Chicago, and St. Paul. In the afternoon of each market day every agent prepares a report for the Associated Press, which then is the property of the Canadian people. The system was commenced a few months ago, and most of the large Canadian dailies are accepting the reports.

The grading of the stock is undertaken systematically; the origin is traced for every carload; prices and numbers are ascertained from the scale tickets, and all other necessary information is gathered which enables the markets-intelligence officers at Ottawa to compile complete and detailed statistics regarding all districts in Canada. Charts have been prepared, and the general movement of stock, fluctuations, and many other features of marketing are recorded.

The act also gives power to the minister to make regulations regarding the marketing of live-stock products, such as wool and meat.

LIVE-STOCK COMMISSION CHARGES

THE FOOD-CONTROL ACT, commonly known as the Lever Act, approved August 10, 1917, authorized the President, when deemed essential, "to license the importation, manufacture, storage, mining, or distribution of any necessities," and to prescribe regulations and requirements for the issuance of licenses; and prohibited anyone from engaging in a business so

licensed without first securing a license. The President was further empowered, if he found "that any storage charge, commission, profit, or practice of any licensee is unjust or unreasonable, or discriminatory or unfair," to order its discontinuance, and to establish in lieu thereof "a just, reasonable, non-discriminatory, and fair storage charge, commission, profit, or practice." The act provided that in any proceedings brought in any court such order of the President shall be prima facie evidence, and penalties for violation of the act were fixed. Under the terms of the act, its provisions "shall cease to be in effect when the existing state of war between the United States and Germany shall have terminated, and the fact and date of such termination shall be ascertained and proclaimed by the President."

Pursuant to the above authority, the President on June 18, 1918, issued a proclamation requiring stock-yard companies, commission men, traders, etc., to secure a license on or before July 23, 1918. General regulations governing licensees were issued on July 26, 1918, over the name of the President, and the Secretary of Agriculture was directed to exercise the powers and authority of the President.

All stock-yard companies, live-stock commission firms, and traders took out licenses, which are still in force; and the Secretary of Agriculture, through the Bureau of Markets, continues to exercise supervision over the stock-yards and the trading thereat.

Commission Charges on Plural-Ownership Cars

Early in the spring of 1920 the American Society of Equity filed a complaint with the Department of Agriculture, charging that, as a result of the action taken by the Chicago Live Stock Exchange, members were required to charge a different and higher rate on live stock in car lots having more than one owner, and that the difference between the commission rates for single and several-ownership cars was unreasonable and discriminatory, in that it was imposed for the purpose of discouraging the co-operative marketing of live stock by farm organizations.

Hearings on this case were held in Chicago on April 12 and 13, 1920, at which seven commission firms operating in that city under federal license appeared in answer to the complaint. On August 5 Secretary Meredith, by direction of the President, issued an order directed to commission firms at Chicago under license, from which we quote the findings, as follows:

... I find that the substantial difference between the service required of a commission man in selling a car lot of live stock having a single record owner and a car lot having more than one record owner is a matter of weighing and accounting. I find that the difference in the commission rates charged for selling a single-ownership car and a plural-ownership car should be the actual cost of the additional weighing and accounting required in the case of a plural-ownership car. I find that you have been following a schedule of commission rates which permits, and that you have been exacting, a maximum charge of \$7 in the case of cattle and calves, \$5 in the case of hogs, and \$6 in the case of sheep and goats, more for

a car lot of live stock having more than one owner than for a like car lot of live stock having a single owner, and that the amount of the charge is determined by the number of live stock in the car rather than by the number of owners. I find that both these charges and the method of determining the amount of the same are unjust, unreasonable, discriminatory, and unfair. I find that a just, reasonable, non-discriminatory, and fair commission or charge for each car lot of live stock having more than one owner should exceed the commission or charge for a car lot having a single owner by the following sums, to-wit:

For more than 1 and not more than 10 owners	\$2.00
For more than 10 but not more than 20 owners	3.00
For more than 20 owners.....	3.50

Provided, that in no case shall any one owner of such car lot pay a higher rate than the maximum charge for a car having a single owner.

Therefore it is hereby ordered that you shall, on or before August 16, 1920, discontinue making and exacting any commission or charge for such service in excess of the commission or charge therefor hereinbefore prescribed, and shall, on and after said date, make and exact for such service the commission or charge hereinbefore prescribed.

The Chicago Live Stock Exchange, in its reply to Secretary Meredith, stated, in effect, that the adoption of the findings of the secretary "will result in substantially the same revenues from this class of service as are derived under section 2½ of Rule 10," and that on the date fixed the order would be complied with. The exchange contended "that compliance with this order is entirely voluntary . . . that the law has given no authority to your department, or any other executive department of the government, to fix and determine the charges and commissions which may be collected by commission men."

Department of Agriculture Condemns Advance of August 2

In the August PRODUCER, page 11, will be found an article relative to the scope of this advance.

The question of its reasonableness was called to the attention of the Secretary of Agriculture, with request for a ruling. On August 17 the secretary ruled that the increases were unjust. We quote the notice sent out by the Department of Agriculture relative to this decision:

Secretary of Agriculture Meredith today ordered licensed commission men at the principal stock-yards of the country to discontinue the schedule of increased commission rates on the sale of live stock put into effect August 2, 1920. In his order the secretary declared that the increases were unjust, and forbade the commission men to charge commissions in excess of those in effect July 1. The commission men are given until August 21 to comply with the secretary's order, which was made under authority of the Food-Control Act.

The orders went to commission men in Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, and the National Stock Yards at East St. Louis. Also, the secretary is calling upon the secretaries of live-stock exchanges at stock-yards, where the Department of Agriculture has no agent, for schedules of commission charges in effect at their respective places. Any increases found in rates at these stock-yards will be ordered discontinued also.

The increases objected to by Secretary Meredith ranged as high as 25 per cent, and included commission on cattle, calves, hogs, sheep, and goats shipped in car lots by single owners. Today's action by the Secretary is along the line of that taken

last week, when he fixed commission rates to be charged at Chicago on car-lot shipments of live stock having more than one owner.

Under the Food-Control Act commission men are required to take out federal licenses for doing business. The department is empowered to prescribe regulations for their operation.

Upon receipt of the order from the secretary, the various live-stock exchanges held a hurried meeting, and, as a result, a conference was arranged at Washington between Secretary Meredith and the counsel and officers of the exchanges at Chicago, Kansas City, and St. Louis. The exchanges urged the secretary to withdraw his order, which he declined to do. Thereupon the exchanges decided to take the matter into the courts. At Kansas City, in the federal court, a temporary injunction was secured on August 27, restraining the secretary from taking any action before September 18 toward cancellation of the licenses of live-stock commission men at the Kansas City yards. At Chicago a temporary injunction was secured on September 1. This puts the whole question at issue before the federal courts. The exchanges insist that the government has no legal right under the Food-Control Act to interfere with the charges imposed by commission men.

At the other markets the order of the secretary is being ignored, and the new charges are being collected. At Denver the charges were put into effect for a few days, then rescinded when the secretary's order was received; but later, on September 1, the new charges were reinstated.

According to the *Daily Drivers' Telegram*, of Kansas City, the commission men at that city are holding in escrow, pending the decision of the court, that portion of the commission charge in excess of the charges in effect previous to the advance. Shippers should keep their account sales until this matter is decided by the court.

IMPROVED FARMING METHODS OF THE NORTHWEST

BY F. L. BALLARD
La Grande, Oregon

THE APPLICATION OF SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES worked out by the Oregon and Montana Experiment Stations is greatly increasing the profits of farmers in Oregon. That sulphur applied to alfalfa land in most sections of eastern and southern Oregon would greatly increase hay yields was the discovery of the Oregon Experiment Station. At the same time scientists in Montana developed the fact that the heretofore lightly regarded Russian sunflower would, if placed in the silo, produce ensilage equal in value to corn ensilage—a discovery of unusual importance, inasmuch as large areas in the western live-stock states are located at an elevation prohibitive of corn production, while the hardy sunflower plant withstands well both frosts and extremely dry weather.

These discoveries have been eagerly accepted by farmers in Oregon, and results attained during the past year have been so successful that a much wider adoption of the plans is being made this year.

Sixteen carloads of sulphur were brought into Deschutes

County last year by the county farm bureau, and spread over 7,000 acres of land—more than half the alfalfa acreage of the county. The first ten carloads were applied to 5,000 acres, and the results were in excess of an additional ton of hay per acre from every acre so treated. One hundred pounds per acre were applied. Previous tests had proved that one application is sufficient for three years, and, as the sulphur applied on the land cost the farmers but \$3 per 100 pounds, Deschutes County ranchers secured an additional ton of hay per acre from lands treated with sulphur for the expenditure of a single dollar. The 5,000 tons of hay secured were valued at \$100,000.

Jackson County, in southern Oregon, shipped in nine carloads last fall, and Klamath County imported five or six carloads. Most eastern Oregon counties find that increases in hay production of from one-half ton to two or more tons are secured.

According to soil experts of the Oregon Agricultural College, there will be no ill effects from using sulphur in the arid and semi-arid districts of eastern Oregon or under the more humid conditions in southern Oregon. Naturally, the high calcium content of such soils will prevent acidity from developing, as might be expected under strictly humid conditions.

It was at first believed that the sulphur, through chemical action in the soil, released unavailable plant-food elements, and thus brought about crop increase. It is now known, however, that the sulphur is a direct plant food, going into solution and being absorbed directly into the plant tissues. Improved methods of analysis show that there are approximately three pounds of sulphur in a ton of alfalfa hay.

It is only since 1912 that stockmen in the Far West appreciated the value of ensilage in live-stock feeding operations. Utilization of this economy has been retarded also by the fact that corn, the recognized ensilage crop, could not be successfully grown over much of the western area, because of short, cool growing seasons brought about by high elevation.

Wallowa County, Oregon, is a famous live-stock county, located at an elevation of 2,500 to 4,000 feet. The excellent ranges furnish grazing for many thousands of cattle and sheep in summer, but in winter much of the stock is shipped to neighboring districts for winter feeding. The executive committee of the Wallowa County Farm Bureau—an organization of farmers grouped around a program of county agricultural development—learned last year of the success attained by feeding sunflower ensilage in Montana, and arranged for plantings to be made in Wallowa County. The results, both from tonnage production of the crop and from feeding value of the ensilage, were entirely satisfactory. Yields as high as thirty-seven tons per acre on well-fertilized irrigated lands were secured, while on some of the driest hill lands surrounding the valley six and eight tons per acre were obtained.

Farmers in other counties throughout the Northwest, learning of these results, have planted large acreages of sunflowers this year.

FINANCING LIVE-STOCK INDUSTRY

A MEETING of the officials of the Federal Reserve Board, bankers, live-stock loan companies, railroad officials, and representatives of the live-stock industry was held at Chicago on September 10, for the purpose, as stated in the call, "to find out whether there is not a better plan by which the live-stock industry can be protected and financed, to the end that confidence and normal food production be restored and abnormal shipments of young and breeding live stock be stopped."

CATTLE-MARKET MUSINGS

BY JAMES E. POOLE

BEF-GATHERING IN THE NORTHWEST was not prosecuted vigorously during August, for the reason that cattle were soft and not ready to go to market. Omaha, Sioux City, and St. Paul received a sprinkling of Dakota and Wyoming stuff—much of it on the trashy order, little in real beef condition. This trash did not get a warm reception from killers, who were in quest of good beef. It was peddled around, much of it selling at \$7.50 to \$9.50; some fat Mexican steers, double-wintered in the North, going at that figure, and decent double-wintered Texans at \$10 to \$10.75. The northwestern range season was formally opened at Chicago on Monday, August 23, when a train of the Dana Cattle Company's double-wintered Texans from the Crow Reservation in Montana sold at \$11.40 to \$11.50, and some well-wintered South Dakota natives at \$12 to \$12.35, thus establishing a market; but these cattle were soft. They would have been worth \$3 per cwt. more a year ago, the difference being represented by the slump in hides and by-products.

Range-Cattle Receipts Small

Chicago received only 12,000 range cattle in August, against 110,000 a year ago, when the drought in Montana, Wyoming, and the Dakotas was responsible for a bovine exodus in all directions. This year grass cured late, and there is a disposition to hold cattle back as long as possible to make every possible pound of weight and harden. Commission men are of the opinion that delay will be advantageous, as each week whittles down the available supply of corn-fed cattle. Kansas grassers will be out earlier than usual, and, with a 50 per cent cut in northwestern beef-gathering, the market ought to give a good account of itself during October.

Money Tension Significant Factor

Beef-gathering in the Northwest has unusual significance this season, owing to the financial stringency. It means a monetary tide flowing into dry channels during the next ninety days, materially relieving existing tension. Had wool been salable, much of this tension would not have existed; hence cattle money is unusually welcome. Banks are not crowding reliable customers, but are forced to relieve the strain they are under, much of which is due to the feed bill they had to finance last winter. By December 1, when the northwestern beef crop has been gathered, financial conditions should be materially easier.

How severe the stress has been is indicated by the arrival at Sioux City and St. Paul of whole outfits from the Dakotas—bulls, steers, cows, heifers, and calves; some carrying two and three sets of flens. On this account commission men are unusually careful in disbursing "proceeds." Sheep are in the same fix as cattle in this respect.

Prospect Brighter than Anticipated

Early September developed a more promising prospect for western cattle than appeared probable a few weeks previous, every indication being that there would be a job awaiting every beast carrying a decent beef covering. Thin stuff should be held back, as the canning industry is prostrate for several reasons, not the least of which is the government sale of canned meats.

Various estimates are placed on the northwestern beef crop, running from 40 to 65 per cent of that of 1919. Local banks will doubtless do everything possible to conserve young cattle and breeding-cows, but there will be every incentive to gather beef close, and dry cows will show up in profusion, as calf mortality was heavy.

Canadian Cattle Scheduled to Arrive

Canada's cattle did not all succumb last winter, as the rise in prices late in August developed much inquiry from Alberta and Saskatchewan, concerning October and November pros-

pects, the probability being that Chicago and St. Paul will get 50 per cent of last year's run from the Dominion. Speculators handle most of these cattle, and if half the yarns going around concerning their war-period profits are true, they have amassed wealth at the expense of producers. Under present conditions the rate of exchange is sufficiently in their favor to give them a substantial profit.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION MEETS

AT ITS MEETING IN SILVER CITY, on August 9 and 10, 1920, the executive board of the New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers' Association passed resolutions calling on the proper authorities to prohibit importations of beef into the United States until home markets have become stabilized; petitioning Congress to accord to stock-raisers the same favorable treatment in the matter of loans as is given to farmers; opposing the progressive-discount-rate policy of the Federal Reserve Board, and requesting the board to extend to live-stock producers the same terms as granted to farming and mercantile interests; advocating increased salaries for federal veterinary inspectors; recommending that members place their claims against railroads in the hands of the association for collection; urging members to submit to their local chambers of commerce or to the secretary of the association full lists of the cattle they have for sale, for the purpose of establishing direct communication with ultimate purchasers; protesting against the seventy-two-hour limit on return passage of live-stock shippers, and asking that the limit be extended to at least thirty days.

A resolution indorsing THE PRODUCER was couched in the following terms:

"WHEREAS, The New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers' Association regards the magazine known as THE PRODUCER, and published by the American National Live Stock Association, as by far the best paper of its kind in the country; therefore be it

"Resolved, That all members of our association be urged most earnestly to subscribe to same."

Meeting at Lovington on September 3 and 4, the executive board of the New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers' Association adopted a resolution urging Congress to take prompt action toward placing the unappropriated public lands into the hands of the states in which they are located, for the purpose of making them bear a share of the expenses of government; and another, requesting that the federal reserve banks provide a system of credits to extend financial aid to the sorely tried producers of live stock, in order to safeguard the nation's meat supply.

NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS IN SESSION

AT A SPECIAL MEETING of the National Wool Growers' Association, held in connection with the Ram Sale at Salt Lake City, Utah, on August 30 and 31, resolutions were adopted to the following effect:

Urging the prompt enactment by Congress of a law levying an import duty on meat animals and their products, for the double purpose of protecting the domestic live-stock industry during these critical times and of furnishing much-needed revenue for the federal treasury;

Advocating the passage of House Bill No. 11641, known as the "Truth-in-Fabrics Bill," in the interest of both consumer, wool-grower, and manufacturer;

Emphatically protesting against any increase of grazing fees on national forests;

Petitioning Congress to appropriate sufficient funds for the eradication of scabies;

Unqualifiedly denouncing the recent advance in commission rates at live-stock markets, and commending the Secretary of Agriculture for opposing this increase.

If your subscription has expired, please renew!

KANSAS FEEDERS FORCED TO CONTRACT

THAT MANY KANSAS STOCKMEN will be forced out of business unless the present financial stringency is soon relaxed, is the belief of W. C. McCampbell, professor of animal husbandry at the Kansas State Agricultural College at Manhattan, who in a recent interview expressed himself to the following effect:

"In comparing the number of range cattle which we now have on hand in Kansas with the number we had in previous years, there is a decrease of fully 35 per cent. And, in addition to this reduction, at the present time the general tendency among the stockmen of the state is to shorten their herds still further.

"This reduction in the amount of live stock is progressing in spite of the fact that feed conditions have never been better than they are this year. The grass is excellent, and many cattle could have been accommodated in the rapidly growing pastures throughout the state.

"With the reduction of live stock continuing, I predict that many who are now barely hanging on to a much smaller amount of stock than they have been in the habit of keeping will be forced entirely out of the business. There have been a few failures up to date, with all signs pointing to more, unless there is a decided turn in conditions.

"The shortage in credit tells the whole story behind the tendency to reduce the cattle supply in Kansas. The majority of the loan companies, and the banks in particular, discourage the renewal of cattle loans. In many instances they have refused to grant a renewal. This state of affairs is going to be felt in the cattle-feeding period which will soon be at hand.

"There is every indication that there will be a reduction of 40 per cent in the number of cattle fed in this section of the country, in spite of the prospect for a good corn crop. The money situation, not the feed situation, is the weight that is holding down the feeders. If they get a corn crop, the grain will have to go to market unfed, just as a great deal of the green grass had to go to waste in the pastures this summer.

"The situation in our state, as I see it, is serious, not only for the man who is handling steers, but also for the man who is handling the cow herd."

WOOL-PRODUCERS TO MEET AT MANHATTAN

A MEETING of representatives of the western region of the American Farm Bureau Federation with officials of the central region will be held at Manhattan, Kansas, September 21 and 22. The object of the meeting is to formulate a plan for an association of wool-growers which is to handle the entire product of the two sections. Much interest has been manifested, and it is thought that this meeting may be the first step toward the establishment of a national wool-marketing organization.

THE CALENDAR

September 6-11—Spokane Interstate Fair and Live Stock Show, Spokane, Wash.

September 20-25—Interstate Live Stock Fair, Sioux City, Iowa.

October 2-10—Los Angeles Live Stock Show, Los Angeles, Cal.

October 4-8—National Swine Show, Des Moines, Iowa.

October 16-24—California International Live Stock Show, San Francisco, Cal.

November 1-5—Western Royal Live Stock Show, Spokane, Wash.

November 7-12—Northwest Live Stock Show, Lewiston, Idaho.

November 13-20—American Royal Live Stock Show, Kansas City, Mo.

November 13-20—Pacific International Live Stock Exposition, North Portland, Ore.

November 27-December 4—International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago, Ill.

January 6-8, 1921—Ogden Live Stock Show, Ogden, Utah.

January 15-22, 1921—National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colo.

January 26-31, 1921—Kansas National Live Stock Exposition, Wichita, Kan.

February 22-24, 1921—Annual Convention of Buyers' and Sellers' Live Stock Association, Amarillo, Tex.

THE PRODUCER

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IN THE INTERESTS OF THE

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BY THE

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If this or the next number of **THE PRODUCER** should be late in reaching our readers, it will be due to a printers' strike in Denver. We are still hopeful that the controversy which has arisen may be amicably settled; but, should we be disappointed in this, we trust that indulgence will be shown for any delay in delivery that may ensue.

GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

COMMERCIAL REPORTS characterize August as the dullest month since the armistice. Fall trade in apparel lines has failed to take definite form, buying still being cautious and for immediate needs only. Price uncertainty continues to affect the action of both buyers and sellers. Factories in many lines are slowing down, awaiting development. Price readjustment is on as never before since the war.

During August the railroads made some progress toward clearing up past and present congestion—thus making for freer distribution of commodities and partial relaxation, in some lines, from financial tension. Grain prospects promise abundance, and movement is increasing. The government report as to the cotton crop shows a satisfactory increase over last year, and prices have scored a sharp decline.

Wool, hides, and skins are inactive—almost impossible to sell at present marked recessions in prices. The silk industries are dormant. Cotton goods are on the toboggan-slide. The shoe and leather trade is depressed. The sugar market became demoralized late in August, and many grocery lines are lower.

Prices for pig iron and steel articles have advanced commensurately with the freight increase, presenting a distinct contrast to other commodities. Railroad buying has not yet materialized in sufficient force to neutralize the lessened taking of steel for the automobile and ship-building trades. At the seaboard there has been a break in prices for bituminous coal. Whether this reduction will continue depends on the outcome of the coal strikes. Building sagged, compared with the previous month and a year ago.

Railroad stocks are in better demand, at slightly advanced prices. Industrials are uneven, with lowering tendencies. Dealing on the New York Stock Exchange is much below the normal average. Liberty bonds are a trifle lower. Foreign exchange is practically unchanged. Money rates are about stationary at the present high level. Since the beginning of 1920 bank loans have gone up and bank deposits down—an unusual circumstance.

The Federal Reserve Board notes "an important downward tendency" in prices of all commodities; also "a pronounced checking" of speculation, as well as a definite, although slight, increase in general efficiency, and an "equally positive, yet limited, curtailment of extravagant expenditure and unnecessary borrowing."

Bradstreet's index number for the week ending September 4, 1920, based on the prices per pound of thirty-one articles used for food, was \$4.36, compared with \$4.37 for the previous week and \$4.95 for the week ending September 4, 1919. This shows a decrease from the corresponding week of last year of 12 per cent.

GRAZING FEES ON NATIONAL FORESTS

IN THIS ISSUE appear two interesting articles opposing the threatened increase in grazing fees on national forests. One of these articles is by E. H. Crabb, chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association; the other is by Victor Culberson, ex-president of the New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers' Association. Both men have had wide experience in grazing cattle on the reserves in their respective states, and are well qualified to discuss the many disabilities and heavy expenses incident to grazing on the reserves as compared with fenced pastures. The articles emphasize the point that the members of the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives do not appreciate the situation; that, if they did, they would not press the demand for increased fees. The suggestion is made that, before any action is taken, full opportunity should be accorded stockmen to submit their views and data.

Like Banquo's ghost, this question of increase in grazing fees will not down. It will again be urged at the next session of Congress, and with increasing insistence. Gilbert N. Haugen, chairman of the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives,

accompanied by W. G. Greeley, Chief Forester, and various local officials of the Forest Service, spent the month of June inspecting a few of the national forests of the West. As a result of that inspection, we believe, Mr. Haugen has a better understanding of some of the many difficulties encountered in grazing on the forests, and the relative value of such grazing. If other members of the committee would likewise inspect the forests, we are confident that their views would undergo a material change.

The New Mexico association has appointed a committee to make a careful study of the grazing conditions on the forests in that state, so as to be prepared to submit their data when the question comes up in Congress again. Other state organizations should take similar action and get their data in shape.

On account of the decreased supply of live stock, there probably will not be such a keen demand for grazing permits on the forests next year.

"CONSISTENCY, THOU ART A JEWEL!"

FROM the *Chicago Daily Drovers' Journal* of August 25 we quote the following excerpt reciting how the National Live Stock Exchange was successful in defeating a ruling of the Railroad and Warehouse Commission of Minnesota, on the ground that the federal government was now exercising full control over live-stock commission charges under the Food-Control Act:

The commission men at the St. Paul market have won the first fall in their battle against permitting the State Railroad and Warehouse Commission to interfere with their business or charges.

The Minnesota legislature of 1919 gave authority to the State Railroad and Warehouse Commission to assume control of live-stock commission merchants and to regulate their charges. Acting under this law, the commission promulgated an order setting the rates of commission to be charged.

The commission men appealed to the County District Court, and alleged the order was invalid for two reasons: first, because it is an attempt to exercise jurisdiction over a field which at the time the order was made was, and still is, occupied by the federal government; second, because the legislative act under which the commission acted in making the order is invalid and unconstitutional, in so far as it interferes with the right of the commission men to fix their own charges.

The order of the court was based solely upon the ground of the first objection.

Testimony was taken May 4, 1920, and at the hearing testimony was given by President Everett Brown, of the National Live Stock Exchange, former Secretary C. B. Heine-mann, and other witnesses, to show that the federal government was exercising control under the Lever Act.

The same market paper, in its issue of August 14, contains the reply of the Chicago Live Stock Exchange to the order of Secretary Meredith in the plural-ownership car case, in which the exchange absolutely denies that any authority rests with the Secretary of Agriculture, or any other government agency, to regulate its charges. We quote that portion of the reply of the exchange, as follows:

We desire to call your attention to the fact, however, that compliance with this order is entirely voluntary on the part of our exchange, and on the part of the licensee members thereof, that we may amicably proceed in this industry until the existing technical state of war has been declared ended; for we feel that the law has given no authority to your department, or any other executive department of the government, to fix and determine the charges and commissions which may be collected by commission men for their services; and our voluntary compliance with this order is not to be taken or considered as an admission or concession that any such power of fixing commissions or charges resides in the Department of Agriculture, or in any other executive department of the government, and such compliance with the order is, further, without prejudice to the right of the licensees of this exchange.

In the *National Live Stock Exchange Bulletin* for August, 1920, is cited with approval the decision of the Railroad and Warehouse Commission of Minnesota of July 21, 1920, in the case of South St. Paul Live Stock Exchange v. St. Paul Union Stock Yards Company, condemning the imposition of an additional yardage on cattle sold by traders in the commission division, and on which an original yardage charge of 30 cents has been collected.

These exchanges must have a chameleon-like code of ethics. According to their standards, it is quite proper for the Minnesota commission to regulate the yardage charges at St. Paul, but improper for it to regulate the commission charges. For the purpose of defeating state regulation, the officers of the National Live Stock Exchange testify, in one court, that the federal government is exercising control over their commission charges under the Food-Control Act; but when the government seeks to exercise that power, the exchanges appear in other courts and contend that no authority over commission charges is vested in the government under any law.

FEDERAL RESERVE LOANS

THE TOTAL LOANS of the twelve federal reserve banks on August 20, 1920, were \$2,940,026,000—an increase over the preceding week of \$30,402,000. On August 22, 1919, the total loans of the same banks were \$2,137,221,000—an expansion during the year of \$802,805,000, equivalent to a percentage increase of 37.8. During that period the live-stock discounts of the twelve banks decreased; they represent today approximately 1 per cent of the total loans—a niggardly proportion compared with the money invested in the live-stock industry and its importance to the country. It would be interesting to know what special interests secured this large increase in loans.

The widely heralded efforts of the federal reserve authorities and their co-operating banks to accomplish some degree of deflation in loans do not seem to have made much headway, measured by their current loan accounts. The contraction which they have forced on some industries has been more than appropriated in other channels. The Federal Reserve Board has frequently announced it to be its policy to take care of

the legitimate needs of essential industries—among which it would seem that food production should rank high. But for some reason that policy must have miscarried or been impossible of fulfilment; for live-stock loans are more difficult to secure than ever before in history.

The net result of the progressive discount rate system, referred to at length in the July PRODUCER, has been to penalize those essential industries which can least afford to pay exorbitant interest charges, and to promote that kind of speculative transactions and non-essential loans which the Federal Reserve Board claims to be trying to restrict. The progressive discount scheme should be abandoned, so far as it applies to essential food-producing industries, and a reasonable flat discount rate substituted. Its operation has already imperiled our future live-stock supply. Indeed, it has not yet been demonstrated that the progressive discount plan possesses any merit in restricting loans on nonessentials.

LOSSES FROM BRUISED LIVE STOCK

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK EXCHANGE, in conjunction with the Institute of American Meat Packers, has started a campaign to reduce meat losses occasioned by bruised live stock due to careless and inhumane handling at stock-yards and loading-points, improper loading of cars, faulty equipment, etc. It is estimated that losses of meat on account of bruises alone amounted to \$15,000,000 last year. Committees representing all interests have been appointed and are at work.

The shipping of live stock and handling it in the yards is not a pink-tea affair, and some rough handling is unavoidable. However, there is plenty of room for improvements in the present method, both en route to market and at the markets.

FINANCIAL TENSION SHOWS LITTLE ABATEMENT

NO MATERIAL CHANGE has occurred in financial conditions during the past month. Bankers insist that they are taking care of their customers, but the amateur cattle- or sheep-feeder who endeavors to break into the game at this juncture on borrowed capital will encounter insurmountable obstacles. Sheep-feeders appear to have better luck than cattlemen when they interview money-lenders. East of Chicago the situation is far more favorable than west. Iowa is still paying the penalty of land speculation and other varieties of financial frenzy, but is buying some cattle and sheep.

West of the Missouri River there is a general disposition to steer the craft into a safe berth. Texas has marketed both cattle and sheep in such numbers as to be able to breathe easier—a performance for which a superb physical condition was largely responsible. The Northwest has barely begun shipping cattle, although sheep and lambs have been running freely; absence of a wool market necessitating liquidation that otherwise would have been unnecessary. Bankers in the Northwest intend to save all the female and young cattle possible, but everything resembling beef will go.

Present money rates are expected to continue, and borrowers will not be solicited at that.

Packers are still showing signs of financial stress. Their securities are selling "away down." Following the recent Armour flotation of \$60,000,000, Morris has borrowed \$15,000,000 at a cost of approximately 8 per cent, and other packer financing is expected.

MANY FALSE PROPHETS BIDE IN THE MARKET PLACE

VERILY we are in an era of false prophecy. All the prognostications made one short year ago concerning prospective shortage of basic raw materials and foodstuffs have been discredited by recent developments. Packers' cellars are full of meats and fats which impoverished Europe cannot afford to buy; hides are unsalable; leather is a drug on the market; woolen mills have suspended operation by the score, owing to cancellation of orders; the 1920 clip of wool not only has no definite basis of value, but is accumulating at concentration points, with no prospect of going into early consumption; elevators everywhere are gorged with cereals, causing concern regarding housing the new crop; the sugar boom has "busted;" banks are loaded to the guards with fur paper; the silk market is demoralized, and cotton values are on a set of slippery skids.

Some of the forecasters may have been entitled to credence, but in the din of shortage clamor they did not get a hearing. The majority were false prophets, either by error or design; and there is good reason for suspicion that much of the famine propaganda was deliberately planned.

RETAILERS ALARMED AT MEAT SHRINKAGE

ALARM OVER THE DIMINISHING MEAT SUPPLY is evinced by the retail interest. John T. Russell, president of the retailers' organization, in his annual address lamented the fact that live-stock production has not been profitable, offering as a remedy for existing conditions a suggestion that the federal government advance money at moderate interest rates to cattle- and sheep-raisers. The suggestion is not likely to be adopted; in fact, the present administration has already turned down a similar one, even when offered for emergency purposes. Now that the keg is running dry, retailers have reason to be alarmed, as their uneconomical system is threatened. During the long period of excess production, when live stock was dirt-cheap and retailers were able to exact profits of 50 to 100 per cent without taxing the purchasing capacity of the public, they showed no concern over producers' losses; now that their own existence is threatened they are sitting up and taking notice. Russell carefully avoided reference to uneconomical distribution, but did denounce the packers for retailing meats, suggesting the possibility that John Jones, packer, might also be John Smith, retailer, and urging members of his craft to resort to sleuthing to prevent such an invasion of its prerogatives.

Meanwhile the public is still paying war prices for meats, and incidentally for excessive service, as an investigation, now in the final stage, by the Bureau of Markets will show conclusively. The remedy is another matter.

LIVE-STOCK CENSUS RETURNS AWAITED WITH INTEREST

UNUSUAL INTEREST centers in the forthcoming live-stock census. The producer has been fed up on "guesstimates" until he no longer gives them serious consideration, fully understanding the hit-or-miss system by which they are compiled.

That shortage of both cattle and sheep impends admits

of no doubt; its extent is the problem. Certainly no such aggregation of bovine and ovine junk has ever been seen around the western markets as is showing up this season. At that, supply in a numerical sense is running far behind recent years, and when beef tonnage is taken into consideration the deficiency is even greater. Something like a definite idea of the cattle and sheep population will be welcome.

Current supply figures at the central markets are decidedly deceptive, especially with respect to cattle, owing to the practice of rebilling. Chicago has been a dumping-ground recently for cattle forwarded from Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis, Sioux City, and St. Paul. All these are counted twice by the statisticians, although brand inspectors never worked the same cattle twice.

Diminished production does not necessarily mean beef or mutton shortage, as consumptive demand is an important factor, and the probability of imports to make up any deficiency in domestic production must be considered; but the census figures will be interesting.

THE PACKER DIVESTMENT*

UNDER THE TERMS of the consent decree between Attorney-General Palmer and the five big packing companies, entered in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia on February 27, 1920, the defendant packers were granted ninety days to file in that court a plan for divesting themselves of their interests in stock-yards, stock-yard terminal railroads, and market newspapers. When the ninety days expired, sixty days' additional time was granted. This was further extended to August 31.

On the latter date the plan was filed in court. It provides for the organization of a holding company by F. H. Prince & Co., of Boston, to take over the interests in the stock-yards and their supplemental railway connections. The properties covered by the proposal are the yards and railroads at Sioux City, St. Paul, St. Joseph, Fort Worth, Kansas City, East St. Louis, Omaha, Oklahoma City, Louisville, Denver, Chicago, Pittsburg, New Orleans, El Paso, and Wichita—fifteen in all. It was represented that the book value of the stock to be disposed of is between thirty and forty million dollars. The court was informed that Swift & Co. were endeavoring to dispose of their yards at Jersey City, Newark, Milwaukee, Portland, and Cleveland to local interests. The packers represented to the court that diligent search had disclosed no other offer for the yards, that it was impossible to dispose of the yards individually, and that consequently a holding company was necessary. It was stated that a special effort would be made to induce livestock growers to invest in the securities of the holding company and to give them representation on the board of directors.

The court has not yet signified its approval of the plan. Possibly an open hearing will be granted before it renders its decision.

SUNFLOWER SILAGE NOT SUITABLE FOR MILK COWS

TO ASCERTAIN THE MERITS of sunflower silage, a feeding test has been conducted at the Kansas Agricultural College at Manhattan. A stand of wild sunflowers in full bloom was cut in the fall of 1919 and put into a silo between layers of corn silage. Five cows, which had previously received corn silage in addition to hay and grain, were fed a ration of sunflowers, alfalfa hay, and a grain mixture of 4 parts of corn chop, 2 parts of bran, and 1 part of oil meal. Of the silage they ate very sparingly from the beginning. After 24 days they showed an average loss of 66 pounds in weight and 3.4 pounds in milk production. They were then changed to cane silage, and in an-

other 24 days gained 25 pounds per head, while all but one cow increased their milk production.

As a result of this trial, Professor Fitch, in charge of the test, does not consider wild sunflowers, when fed alone, a satisfactory crop for silage. Cut while in full bloom, the stems of the plants are dry and woody, and are not relished by the average milk cow, which requires a more succulent food.

On the other hand, as previously mentioned in these columns, tests carried on at the Montana Experiment Station and elsewhere seem to have thoroughly demonstrated the value of sunflower silage in the feeding of steers, which has become quite popular throughout some of the western states. The general opinion among feeders here seems to be that the success attending the use of this silage is in direct proportion to the age at which the plant is cut.

BY-PRODUCT VALUES

FROM the *National Provisioner* we quote the following article relative to some of the factors causing fluctuations in the live-stock market and determining the price of meat to the consumer:

"The average consumer, and especially the average newspaper-reader, believes that the price of meat is, or at least should be, determined solely by the price of live stock; that an advance or decline in the value of cattle and sheep should be followed by a corresponding change in the price of meat to the consumer.

"There are other important and vital elements in the case, however, and this was brought out recently in an investigation of local meat prices at Chicago. According to the figures submitted by one of the larger packers, prices of cattle and lambs have been materially reduced because of a slump in the values of hides, wool, and other by-products, comparing values August 7, 1920, with August 8, 1919.

"According to this statement, \$11 western and Colorado cattle this year produce the same cost beef that \$13.36 cattle produced last year; \$13.50 live lambs this year produce the same cost meat as \$17.96 lambs a year ago.

"On western and Colorado cattle the by-product values declined \$2.13 per cwt. Expenses of labor, supplies, etc., increased 23 cents per cwt. Total, \$2.36 per cwt. live.

"The drop in the price of wool and other by-products has been \$4.36 per cwt. Increase in expenses, 10 cents per cwt. Total, \$4.46 per cwt. live.

"This simply illustrates the principle that, when by-product values are low, the packer must pay less for live stock in proportion to the selling price of dressed beef. When by-product values are high, the reverse is true.

"Hides and wool have been practically unsalable during the past few months. They have been piling up on the packers' hands and tying up such huge sums of capital that the situation will remain serious until these important commodities begin to move.

"Changing conditions such as these are bound to cause fluctuations in the markets. These are things which it is hard for the average citizen to understand, and which the political opportunist and sensational press writer do not try to fathom."

WOOL CONSUMPTION DECLINING

REFLECTING the extensive shut-downs which have occurred in the wool-manufacturing industry during the past few months, the July report shows a consumption of only 37,100,000 pounds of wool, grease equivalent, during that month, as compared with 63,000,000 pounds in July, 1919—a decrease of 41 per cent. While mill operations were less extensive in July than in any other month this year, there has been a steady decline in wool consumption since March, when 67,900,000 pounds were used. In June 46,000,000 pounds were consumed.

"The high merits of THE PRODUCER make it indispensable to me."—E. S. Gosney, Pasadena, Cal.

"THE PRODUCER is an ideal stockman's paper and should be read by forest officers as well as producing stockmen."—Fred W. Croxen, forest ranger, Winslow, Ariz.

THE STOCKMEN'S EXCHANGE

THE PRODUCER invites the stockmen of the country to take advantage of its columns to present their views on problems of the day as they affect their industry. It solicits correspondence on topics of common concern, such as stock, crop, and weather conditions, doings of state and local organizations, records of transactions of more than individual interest. Make it your medium of exchange for live-stock information between the different sections of the stock-raising region. Address all communications to THE PRODUCER, 515 Cooper Building, Denver, Colorado.

PRESENT METHOD OF MARKETING STOCKERS AND FEEDERS ECONOMIC WASTE

KIT CARSON, COLO., August 31, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

For many years I have thought that our system of marketing stockers and feeders has been a great economic waste. Fifteen or twenty years ago a very large percentage of the stockers and feeders were sold in the country, but of late years it has become the practice to ship practically everything to market. The commission men have used the argument that buyers could get just what they wanted at the markets. There may be some degree of truth in this, but not nearly so much as they would have us believe.

Now that we have had the recent large increase in freight rates, and the advance in commissions and yardage, this practice of marketing cattle through the stock-yard centers will be a greater waste than ever before. In many instances cattle are shipped in from the country, purchased by some commission firm, and returned to within a few miles of the point where they originated. In such cases there might very easily be a cost of eight to ten dollars a head, which is an absolute loss, besides the wear and tear on the animals.

Stocker and feeder buyers from the Corn Belt, who drift down to the market to buy their cattle, nine times out of ten purchase these from a yard trader or a speculator who is an expert at getting a fill on them. In fact, these traders make most of their money off the water and hay that they sell at the yards. In buying stockers on the market, the purchaser should insist on having his orders filled out of first-hands. Do not buy speculators' cattle!

There is no doubt that many a feeder has been disappointed in the gains of his cattle in the feed-lot when he returned them to market, from the fact that they were over-filled at the time he purchased them. If feeders would make a practice of buying their cattle in the country direct from the growers, and ship them straight home without going through the large marketing centers, they would have better results in the feed-lot.

The system of sending all these stocker and feeder cattle to market is wrong. It helps swell receipts, which has a bad effect on the market in general.

If we are going to continue to sell our stockers and feeders at central markets, we should adopt a different sys-

tem. They should all be sold at auction. The live-stock papers throughout the country should carry a column giving the names and description of cattle that individual breeders have for sale. The papers could charge a nominal sum for carrying these advertisements.

The 35 per cent increase in freight charges will very easily add a dollar or two to the price of all cattle shipped into and out of the markets. This is a matter that everybody should give serious consideration.

I hope to see the day when there will be nothing but fat cattle and canners shipped to the central markets.

In shipping a car of cattle from my station to Kansas City, under the present increase in freight commissions and yardage, it will cost from \$5.50 to \$6 a head to market a 1,000-pound steer. If some man from Iowa should buy this load of steers, it will cost him practically the same amount of money to get them home. On the other hand, if this car of cattle had been shipped direct from my ranch to the Iowa feeder, there is no doubt but that one-half of the expense could have been saved.

It seems to me that every live-stock association in the West should each year compile a list of stockers and feeders which its members have for sale, and carry advertisements in the farm papers in the Corn Belt region. I am satisfied that such a plan would bring a great many buyers direct to the ranches.

I should like to learn other people's views along this line through the columns of THE PRODUCER.

CHARLES E. COLLINS.

PACKERS NOT ANXIOUS TO ENTER RETAIL FIELD

CHICAGO, ILL., September 3, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

THE PRODUCER for August contains an editorial under the title, "Who Is to Blame?" in which the proposition is advanced that the only way to eliminate the wide margin between cattle prices and retail beef prices is for the "big slaughterers to enter the retail field."

Even if the large packers were disposed to take on the trials and tribulations of meat-retailing, your readers should know that we could not possibly do so because of the consent decree which was issued by the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia last February. This decree enjoins the five large packers from operating retail stores, except such stores as cater to their own employees.

It seems rather strange for THE PRODUCER to be advocating something that we are prohibited from doing by the consent decree, which was a direct result of the agitation against the packing industry based largely on the report of the Federal Trade Commission. The American National Live Stock Association takes the credit for having started the investigation of the Federal Trade Commission.

We agree with THE PRODUCER that "the present situation,

with all its recriminations, is intolerable." We do not agree with THE PRODUCER that it is necessary for the packers to enter the retail field in order to determine who is getting more than a reasonable profit. There is plenty of positive evidence that the packer's profit amounts to only a fraction of a cent per pound of meat, including the return from cured hides and other by-products.

L. D. WELD,
Manager Commercial Research Department,
Swift & Co.

A GOVERNMENT-OWNED STOCK-YARD

MARFA, TEX., August 9, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

I have greatly appreciated the discussion carried on in the columns of THE PRODUCER anent the regulation of the packing industry; but, somehow, so far very little has been said in the way of suggesting a remedy. It is one proposition to diagnose a case, and quite another to prescribe a cure. We are depending largely on Congress to enact laws that will regulate the packing industry. I believe the revised Gronna-Anderson bill is very necessary legislation, and that it will go a long way toward obtaining the desired results. Yet it is sometimes easier to enact a law than to enforce it.

I once heard a commission man say that the packing industry could never be regulated as long as the packer buyers were permitted to get together in the stock-yards. This statement, coming as it did from one whose occupation brings him in constant touch with the packer buyers, and who doubtless is familiar with the methods used, made a deep impression on my mind.

As to suggesting a method of regulating the packing industry, I wish to submit the following: Let the government own and operate a packing-plant and stock-yard. We have demonstration farms and ranches owned and operated by the government as an educational feature which has wrought immeasurable good; why not have a demonstration packing-plant and stock-yard? Such an adventure would not lessen the need of legislation like the bill now pending in Congress, but, as a source of education, would be a great aid in enforcing the law by throwing light on the subject.

According to the provisions of the Palmer injunction, the packers must divest themselves of the stock-yards; so why not let the government take over one of these? Surely government ownership of just one packing-plant and stock-yard would not disturb business relations in the least, and might prove, by way of education, a strong factor toward eliminating the much-complained-of "agitation."

L. C. BRITE.

UPHOLD ADVANCE IN COMMISSION CHARGES

OMAHA, NEB., August 31, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Taking advantage of your invitation to make reply to the article published in the August PRODUCER relative to live-stock exchanges and commission men generally, I am led to submit a few statements. Please understand, however, that I am not writing on behalf of any exchange or organization, but simply as an individual—one of the original members of the first live-stock exchange ever organized, and with more than forty-five years' active experience in the live-stock commission business and the interests with which it is closely allied.

The complimentary references contained in the article referred to I am sure will be appreciated. Few persons object to honest and constructive criticism. My long experience with these people convinces me that there are very few, if any, business men in this or any other country who are more un-

selfish, more loyal, or who work harder for their patrons, than the live-stock commission men belonging to the various exchanges.

For the portion of this letter dealing with the aims, ability, and justification of live-stock exchanges I give credit to Mr. Robert H. Moulton.

The Omaha Live Stock Exchange, like all other live-stock exchanges, may be defined simply as an organization which enables people to buy and sell live stock freely, either in person or through a broker, and which has for its fundamental objects the promotion of uniformity in customs and usages, the inculcation of principles of justice and equity in trade, the facilitation of speedy adjustment of business disputes, the dissemination of valuable information, and the securing to its members and patrons of all the benefits of co-operation.

The exchange itself is not organized for the making of money and does not fix prices or make transactions in the trade as an organized body. It is merely instrumental in affording a convenient market system in regulating trade, and in disciplining the conduct of its members, who act on their own responsibility. They may do as much business as they like, provided they conform to the standards which the rules of the exchange prescribe for the regulation of the trade.

In the free buying and selling of our live stock it is not at all surprising that many questionable practices should arise. Great importance should, therefore, be attached by all interests coming in contact with the market to the disciplinary rules which have been adopted for the regulation of these transactions, and to the maintenance by this means of standards of commercial honor in the trade very much higher than would otherwise be the case. Care is exercised in electing new members to the exchange. These must obligate themselves to abide by its constitution and all subsequent amendments thereto. Expulsion is the penalty in case a member fails to comply with the terms of any business obligation, or with the award of any committee of arbitration. No member is allowed, under any circumstances, to be both principal and agent in any transaction.

It is not contended that it would not be possible to market live stock if every exchange were closed, any more than it would follow that the world would be in darkness if lighting by electricity had never been discovered, or that business could not be transacted without the telephone, the telegraph, or the typewriter.

Competition has driven the commission merchant to render every possible service to the country shipper. In addition to his activities in selling live stock, he hires the most expert salesmen to operate for him in the yards, and spends a great deal of time and effort to keep in touch with the best buyers, so as to make a good showing in the sale. The exchange makes it its business to collect claims from the railroad companies for loss in transit; and, above all, the commission man is constantly looking for the high market in the interests of his shipper.

The commission merchant must not only be honest in his effort to secure the highest price for his client, but he must know how to do it. He must know live stock—the better he knows it, the better for him and his client. He must also know geography—he must know market conditions the world over. When this kind of service can be secured (and it is the opinion of successful country stockmen that such service is available in the large terminal markets), then the producer who consistently consigns to reliable commission merchants undoubtedly fares the best in the long run.

I feel quite sure that no fair-minded, unprejudiced, and intelligent person who will carefully read the above statements, and who is also at all familiar with the live-stock business as it is carried on, can fail to admit that the live-

stock exchanges as at present administered are a real benefit to the industry and one of the principal organizations that have fought, are fighting, and will continue to fight for the best interests of the live-stock producers, feeders, and shippers of this country.

I feel quite sure that something of this kind was in your mind when you wrote the following paragraphs appearing on pages 12 and 13 of the August PRODUCER:

"While the Bureau of Markets has never submitted any official findings as to the reasonableness of this advance of August, 1918, we are informed unofficially that the showing of many of the firms as to net profits was regarded as justifying the increase, without taking any other factors into account. We understand, further, that the officials of the bureau were abundantly convinced from their investigations that there were too many engaged in the commission business—that it was overdone. However, as the bureau had no authority under the law and regulations to correct this latter evil, and as the earnings and expenses of a majority of the firms did not show any unjust or exorbitant profits, it was decided not to order any change in the new rates, but to hold the case in abeyance for further developments.

"Unquestionably these exchanges have promoted better commercial conduct on the markets, and have largely eliminated crookedness and theft. In recent years they have arranged a bonding system to protect shippers from losses that might arise through the failure of a commission firm. They have been instrumental in inaugurating many essential reforms in the handling of live stock on the market, such as the dockage system, handling of diseased animals, assisting in brand inspection, establishment of regular trading hours, improvement in yard facilities, etc. Their service in the handling of live-stock loans has been most helpful. They have also aided stockmen in transportation matters where it served their interests, and have been active in legislative questions affecting the live-stock industry. Indeed, the exchanges have a creditable record of some substantial achievements for the betterment of marketing conditions."

The only reason why the market press failed to report any agitation or action regarding the commission charges at the meeting of the National Live Stock Exchange in June was the fact that nothing whatsoever was said or done at that meeting on that subject.

So far as I know, it has never been considered necessary for commission men or brokers to consult patrons regarding compensation for their services, any more than for railroads, public-service corporations, coal miners, or professional men to consult with the public when making rates or prices.

When live-stock commission charges were first established, and for many years thereafter, the cars were 28 feet long; then 30 and 32 feet; and for the past twenty years or more they have been 36 feet long—an increase of nearly 30 per cent. Prior to 1912 salaries for salesmen ran from \$150 to \$500 a month; for yardmen, from \$40 to \$75; for office men, from \$50 to \$150. Since then these salaries have increased from 100 to 150 per cent, and at the present time are at the top figures. Office rent, stationery, advertising—in fact, all expenses, including living expenses—have advanced at the same rate. When the average commission outfit struck its balance this spring it found itself losing money, and, in order to keep solvent and maintain the high efficiency necessary for the best results for its patrons, it was deemed necessary to raise its charges.

It is to the credit of the great majority of live-stock producers, feeders, and shippers that, so far as my observation and experience go, and from general inquiry among commission men, no complaints have been made by people who actually pay the commission. On the contrary, I have heard a number of shippers say that they considered the advance just, and that the commission men were entitled to it. The only criticisms that have come to my notice are those contained in the article in THE PRODUCER and in the extract from *Wallaces' Farmer*, which I do not consider very severe.

For reasons doubtless well known to themselves, there are a few live-stock men who seem to delight in hammering the commission men, packers, and railroads, no matter what these may say or do. At the same time, I notice, most, if not all, who are financially interested in live stock patronize members of live-stock exchanges when they ship any stock. I am sure that fully 90 per cent of the real live-stock men appreciate what the exchanges and commission men have done and are doing, and are satisfied to pay them for their services.

There is nothing in the rules of the Omaha Live Stock Exchange which even attempts to prevent any man from selling or buying his own live stock. The fact that he does not do this would seem to be proof that he believes he receives better results by employing members of the exchange to perform that service.

I doubt very much if you could find any commission man who would not agree with your statement that there are too many commission firms. I also believe that you would find this true in practically every other line of business. If you or anyone else can devise ways and means by which any appreciable percentage of the commission firms may be eliminated, it will certainly help solve many problems that have baffled the business world for years. If, however, it is impossible—as I believe it is—to accomplish such a purpose, why should a known impossibility be suggested? I am at a loss to understand your meaning when you say: "Commission merchants are the victims of a vicious principle which their exchanges must continue to advocate and enforce."

You will also find, if you will take the pains to investigate, that there is no other line of commission or brokerage business which receives so little for its services, risk, investment, etc., as do the live-stock commission men belonging to the exchanges. There is not an individual, company, or corporation engaged in the live-stock commission business that is considered rich, as that word is understood in this country at the present time. But in honesty, integrity, and desire to promote and protect the best interests of their patrons I am convinced that they rank a full 100 per cent.

I have always operated on the principle that we are living in a free country, where each and every law-abiding citizen or association of citizens will get fair treatment, not only by courts and other instituted authorities, but by individuals with whom they come in contact. However, when I read and hear some of the attacks that are being made against the live-stock exchanges, and the live-stock commission business in particular, I am inspired with grave doubts as to whether they should be allowed to exist. But, if we were put out of business, how would the producer and shipper be better protected or the live stock better handled?

CHARLES A. MALLORY.

* * *

OMAHA, NEB., August 20, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

I have noted the article in the August PRODUCER entitled "Advance in Commission Charges," and the comments therein made on the commission men, the abolishment of the exchanges, and the regulation of the handling of live-stock shipments at all markets. If your theory were practicable—that is, to eliminate all but a few firms from the business and make it a monopoly—why would not the same rule apply to live-stock magazines and other money-making propositions "operated in the interests of the live-stock industry in general"? It is a poor rule that does not work both ways.

In your attack on the commission men in connection with the recent advance in charges, you do not mention the fact that two years ago, on the Omaha market, we refrained from in-

creasing our commissions for patriotic reasons, at the request of former Food Administrator Wattles, of Nebraska; neither do you mention the fact that the commission men's expenses have increased from 35 to 50 per cent, the same as have the expenses in any other line of business. You do not explain that the commission merchants handle the great volume of business of the live-stock industry for less than 1 per cent, which is far below the percentage charged by brokers in any other commodity; neither do you explain that the exchanges, and the business men who are members of the exchanges, are the greatest protection to the live-stock industry in this country.

Why not go back to the times before the existence of the live-stock exchanges and compare the handling of live stock now with the way it was handled then? What protection did the shippers have when there were no exchanges, and what protection would they have in case your suggestions were followed?

Of course, if a few firms were to handle all the business, competition would be entirely eliminated on the market, and the producer, feeder, and shipper would be at the mercy of a few who could set their own price on live stock, regardless of its true value. The adage that "competition is the life of trade" still holds good. It would be just as reasonable to advocate that there should be only a few permitted to produce the live stock of the world, which would eliminate competition in the producing line.

I hope we are not drifting into socialism, and that the time will never come when any clique of politicians or agitators can dictate to the American people what business they should engage in.

If there are too many commission firms, it is up to the shippers of live stock to select the most competent, reliable, and trustworthy ones, which we believe they are intelligent enough to do.

GEORGE MELADY.

APPROVES ARTICLE ON COMMISSION CHARGES

MANHATTAN, KAN., August 21, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

I wish to express my hearty approval of the article headed "Advance in Commission Charges" in the August PRODUCER. It covers the entire case admirably, presents the facts clearly, is absolutely fair and moderate in tone, and is a very straightforward and clear statement of the situation.

As a result of the recent advance, it is safe to predict that the "personal representatives of producers" will immediately find themselves in a most uncomfortable position. The "maintenance of their solvency and efficiency" is jeopardized rather than safeguarded by the step they have taken. The first paragraph of the *Drovers' Journal's* explanation, as an example of language used to conceal meaning, is "mighty hard to tail down."

If the majority of commission men should forsake the exchange building for the saddle and the range, both they and their customers would be infinitely better off, and there would be no need for producers to combat this arbitrary action of their "personal representatives."

DAN D. CASEMENT.

EASTERN MONTANA RANGE IN EXCELLENT CONDITION

MISSOULA, MONT., August 19, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

It may interest readers of THE PRODUCER to learn that the writer has covered a great deal of the forest range in eastern Montana this season, and that this range in general is in better condition than it has been for the past eight years. This is

due to the fact that the greater part of this section has been blessed with frequent rains throughout April, May, June, and July, with the result that there is an extra fine forage crop nearly everywhere. A matter of interest to all stockmen, and to the Forest Service as well, is the fact that the forage plants have gone to seed much earlier than usual, and that the chances for natural reseeding of the heavily taxed ranges are excellent. With favorable growing conditions next year, it may be expected that our ranges will practically return to normal conditions. This, of course, is very fortunate, since undoubtedly the demand for range in the future will continue, and it is the desire of the Forest Service to take care of as much stock as is consistent with the permanent welfare of the ranges. As a general thing, also, the hay crop is excellent, and most stockmen will have sufficient hay to carry them through the winter.

While they have met with considerable losses during the last season, stockmen, on the whole, are rather optimistic with regard to the future of the live-stock business. Of course, the present unsatisfactory prices on wool and mutton have caused the sheepmen no little anxiety. It is generally felt, however, that in the end prices will be satisfactory.

GLEN A. SMITH,
Assistant District Forester.

CALIFORNIA CATTLE MARKET DULL

BAKERSFIELD, CAL., August 26, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Our live-stock market is very much below par at the present time. Prime cattle cannot be sold at any figure that will justify the rancher in disposing of them. A great many half-fat animals are being shipped here from Nevada and part of Arizona, and are sold for whatever they will bring.

We have had a very unusual season in California this year, with very little warm weather. Lately rain has been falling in some parts of the state; but this will not benefit us, and may do some harm.

H. A. JASTRO.

FEED PLENTIFUL AND MONEY SCARCE IN WASHINGTON

SPOKANE, WASH., September 3, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

The Spokane territory and all the Northwest are blessed this year with an abundance of forage crops. I do not believe I have ever seen a time when crops were better than they are this year.

The continued high price of grain and lack of financial assistance for the stockmen are naturally having their effects in our country, the same as in all other live-stock states. The money stringency, following so close on the heels of the drought conditions in the Northwest during the past few years, is surely visiting hardship on those who had nerve enough to stay in the business. Now that we have lots of feed, but cannot properly finance the stockman, the producer is going to suffer. We hope that the financial situation can be so handled that the live-stock men will be able to get money.

JOHN H. ROBERTS,
Secretary-Treasurer,
Spokane Union Stock Yards Company.

"I have enjoyed reading THE PRODUCER, as it contains many well-written articles that are important to the live-stock producer. The discussions of the economic problems of the day, the data as to live-stock population, and the conditions of the markets for both live and dressed meat animals are of great importance to the man who is alive and wants to improve the live-stock business. My only regret is that it is not published oftener."—Frank H. Gulick, assistant professor, Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kansas.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

PROGRESS OF BETTER-SIRES CAMPAIGN

UP TO JULY 1, 1920, a total of 106,556 farm animals had been listed in the "Better Sires—Better Stock" movement, then eight months old. ("Listing" means that all males are pure-bred, and that females are bred only to pure-bred males.) Classified, the honor roll on that date appeared as follows:

Cattle	42,941
Horses	4,078
Asses	155
Swine	15,692
Sheep	41,424
Goats	2,266

Total 106,556

Forty-six states were co-operating with the Department of Agriculture in this work, with 2,078 live-stock owners participating.

A small pamphlet, containing information as to benefits resulting from the use of better sires, has been prepared and may be had on request from the Bureau of Animal Industry, Washington, D. C.

STOCK-RAISING HOMESTEADS MULTIPLYING

MORE THAN 74,000,000 ACRES have been classified as stock-raising land since the passage of the Stock-raising Homestead Act in December, 1916, according to announcement made by the Secretary of the Interior. During the month of June, 1920, 14,000,000 acres were thus classified. Of these, 5,510,816 acres were in Montana, 2,527,123 in South Dakota, 2,048,320 in Arizona, 1,448,040 in Oregon, 1,159,870 in Idaho, 1,141,674 in Colorado, and 30,000 in New Mexico. Approximately 82,000 applications have been received since the passage of the act, and more than 67,000 of these have been disposed of.

LIVE-STOCK CENSUS TO FURNISH VALUABLE DATA

AS THE TIME APPROACHES when the returns from the 1920 federal census of live stock will become available, interest centers on the character of the data being collected. In some respects these will not be strictly comparable with those of previous censuses. Certain changes in classification have been made, with the object of making the tabulations as nearly perfect as possible. It is believed that a hitherto unattained degree of comprehensiveness and accuracy has been attained. Since preparation of the schedules was first undertaken, the Bureau of Animal Industry has been in close touch with the Census Bureau, aiding in working out the plans.

A feature of the census which, it is believed, will prove of much value is the enumeration of pure-bred live stock. This will appear by breeds, sexes, and numbers in the case of cattle, and by breeds and numbers in the case of sheep and hogs. While these data have been obtained in previous censuses, they

have hitherto never been tabulated, owing to the expense involved. It is felt, however, that such tabulation is now of sufficient importance to warrant the cost. Hand tabulations have already been started for several states, and press summaries will be issued as soon as practicable. Other facts which will be brought out are the numbers, sexes, and ages of beef and dairy cattle, and of sheep, goats, and hogs, in the United States on January 1, 1920; wool shorn in 1919; young animals raised and domestic animals slaughtered for food on farms in 1919. The extent of co-operative selling and purchasing of farm products and supplies during the previous year will be recorded. As previously, a full and classified account of farm acreage, values, improvements, incumbrances, and crops grown will be given. Conditions of farm tenure—whether operated by owners, managers, or tenants—will be registered, and much other important information will be supplied.

AUGUST CROP SUMMARY

INDICATIONS ON AUGUST 1 pointed to increased yields of corn, winter wheat, oats, barley, and hay, as compared with the government's July estimates, while spring wheat and rye showed declines. Compared with last year, the production of the different crops indicated the following percentages: corn, 102.9; wheat, 84.4; oats, 112.3; barley, 118.2; rye, 88; buckwheat, 90.8; hay, 98.7. The composite condition of all crops on August 1 was 5.6 per cent higher than on July 1, 5.55 per cent higher than the final yields in 1919, and 5.3 per cent above the average for the last ten years.

The Bureau of Crop Estimates publishes the following figures:

	Production (Bushels)		Country Prices	
	Indications Aug. 1, 1920	Average 1914-1918	Aug. 1, 1920	Average 1914-1918
Corn	3,003,322,000	2,760,484,000	\$ 1.637	\$ 1.183
Winter wheat	532,641,000	563,498,000		
Spring wheat	261,506,000	258,748,000		
Total wheat	794,147,000	822,246,000	\$ 2.322	\$ 1.447
Oats	1,402,064,000	1,414,558,000	.819	.538
Barley	195,916,000	214,819,000	1.210	.771
Rye	77,893,000	59,933,000	1.686	1.151
Buckwheat	14,790,000	15,305,000	1.813	1.283
Hay, tame (tons)	88,624,000	81,430,000	22.07	12.61
Hay, wild (tons)	18,642,000	17,874,000	15.38	8.95

(See table printed on page 21 of August PRODUCER.)

TUBERCULOSIS-ERADICATION WORK IN JULY

DURING THE MONTH OF JULY, 1920, the Bureau of Animal Industry, in co-operation with the various states, tested 66,115 cattle, belonging to 4,534 herds or lots, for tuberculosis. Of this number 2,598, or 3.93 per cent, reacted. Minnesota was still the state having the largest number of accredited, tuberculosis-free herds, heading the list with 500. Virginia had 337, Wisconsin 302, and Pennsylvania 284.

THE MARKETS

LIVE-STOCK MARKET AT BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., September 1, 1920.

FREE MARKETING OF GRASS CATTLE was responsible for a choppy set of markets all through August. Kansas City was the big spot on the map, Chicago missing the crop of fat 'stillers that came from Terre Haute, Pekin, and Peoria before the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States substituted illicit for legal whisky-making. Likewise the normal August movement of grassers was conspicuous by its absence, so that the liberal southwestern movement was digested at the prices. Supply statistics were deceptive, as Chicago was made the dumping-ground for thousands of grass cattle bought by speculators at "river" markets. Packers, in pursuance of custom, discriminated against such cattle, but were compelled to use them. The unwritten law that cattle should be sold on the market they first reach still holds good, although frequently suspended by the law of supply and demand. Some of these rebilled cattle made handsome profits for speculators, packers taking them on the Chicago market at prices \$1.25 to \$1.75 per cwt. higher than they bid at "river" markets, indicating the severe character of the penalty paid by growers.

Cattle Market Still Erratic

Instability has been as conspicuous and provoking as ever. As the tiger refuses to change his stripes, so the system works on implacably. Corn-fed cattle were so scarce at all times that they were in a distinct specialty class, working steadily to higher levels; but the proportion of \$17 to \$17.75 steers at Chicago in August was obviously small, and elsewhere such cattle were practically unknown. They represented the holdings of a few nervy feeders who took a chance on the theory that demoralization in May meant fat-cattle shortage in August and later. Some of these cattle were bought on the open market at \$11.50 to \$12.50 in May, thrown on grass, and brought back in August to make profits ranging from \$75 to \$100 per head—or practically what the feeder who handled them last winter lost.

Upward Trend Noted at End of August

Dismissing the \$17 to \$17.75 delegation which steadily gained 50 to 75 cents per cwt., the rank and file of \$11 to \$13 grassers, weighing anywhere from 900 to 1,400 pounds, found an extremely volatile market, most of the time on the catch-as-catch-can basis, neither buyers nor sellers pretending to know within \$1 per cwt. what such cattle were worth intrinsically until the hides were peeled off. During the first half of the month the trend was downward; subsequently the tide turned, until the last week witnessed a general advance of \$1 per cwt.—something unusual during August, and indicative of beef shortage measured by consumptive demand. Even common light cattle selling at \$8.50 to \$10.50 participated in the advance. There was no evidence of manipulation, or effort to sweeten the deal for the purpose of stimulating feeding operations; in fact, the big packers followed the advance reluctantly.

Quality Prime Factor

The spread between common and choice steers has been the widest of the season, acres of little stuff going over the scales

at \$8 to \$10, with canning grades as low as \$6, while prime steers weighing 800 to 2,000 pounds have been eligible to \$17 to \$17.75. Quality and condition, rather than weight, are the factors, although plain heavy bullocks have sold closer to tops than heretofore—a natural condition when finished cattle are scarce. Prediction that demoralization during the first five months of the year would insure deficiency of fat cattle later has been abundantly verified, as the country balked at converting corn into beef. Packers bid for trash in March, April, and May; during August they got little else, and the man who refused to follow the crowd at either stage profited.

Western Cattle Scarce

Few western cattle showed up in August. They sold at anywhere from \$8 to \$12.35 per cwt. Omaha, Sioux City, and St. Paul received a generous sprinkling of \$8 to \$11.50 Dakota stuff, much of it dislodged by financial stringency. Killers were not partial to grass beef from the Northwest at that period, as they had access to plenty of southern stuff, and northern grass did not cure until late, insuring deficient weights and poor quality. The feeder phase of the trade was slow at all times.

Packers Pinning Up Hog Market

Packers have consistently supported the hog market for several reasons, not the least of which is a determination to avert depreciation of their heavy cellar stocks. They have inserted a prop whenever the opportunity offered, supporting various phases of the market as necessity arose. September usually develops high spots for the year, but it is probable that the crest was reached in August this season. Packers have been getting fat sows at \$13.50 to \$14.50, and choice hogs at anywhere from \$15 to \$16 per cwt. That they could have put up droves \$1 per cwt. lower at any time during the past two months, by merely issuing instructions of that nature to their buyers, will not be denied even by the most hardened of their publicists. Not only are they intent on protecting their holdings, but they also manifest a disposition to stimulate production. "We can get along with fewer cattle, and are not walking the floor nights in apprehension that the sheep supply will give out," said a packer recently; "but deficient hog production would be a serious matter to the packer." And there are signs of liquidation that suggest restricted production in every day's receipts at the primary markets. For weeks past every stockyard in the country has been filled with sleek, smooth sows, fat as seals, that have contributed but one litter of pigs to the food supply and have gone to the shambles because growers are apprehensive that hogs will not pay their board. That they are fat is somewhat surprising, as the ratio has been out of line, and growers have protested volubly that corn could not be converted into pork at a profit. Had the prospect been more luminous, many of these sows would have been bred for fall litters; but farmers figure that cash in hand is more desirable than a hog crop in the making stage. The result is that packers have been under the necessity of taking care of far more hogs than they expected, swelling provision stocks and enhancing carrying charges. With 200,000,000 pounds of lard on their hands, and a generous stock of dry salt and pickled meats, they are impatiently awaiting a European market sufficiently broad to relieve them of part of the load.

Values Likely to Be Maintained

Thirty days hence a new book will be made, as the sporting gentlemen say; but, singularly enough, nobody in Packingtown or thereabouts is talking cheap hogs, in striking contrast to packer policy in the past. Since the demise of Pat Cudahy of Milwaukee no arch-bear has functioned; a desirable reform, as constantly preaching cheaper hogs got packers nowhere and discouraged growers. That \$15 per cwt. will be a common price for good hogs during the winter months is rea-

sonable expectancy, as packers will be forced to carry over a lot of product made this year, and breaking hog prices will not facilitate distribution. By maintaining hog values during the winter on a parity with corn, they will insure production and a supply of raw material, without which their plants would be so much junk.

Sheep Industry Suffering from Excess of Troubles

More varieties of trouble than Pandora's box ever contained have overwhelmed the sheep industry recently. Demoralized wool trade, heavy imports of foreign frozen mutton, and liquidation constitute a trinity of evils responsible for most of the tribulation recorded. Mid-August found the whole market stagnant, choice western lambs selling below \$13, and good natives at \$10.50 to \$11.50. Packers, who in a measure were responsible by distributing frozen lamb all over the country, awoke to a realization that they were "getting in bad" with producers, and sagaciously put it under lock and key, with gratifying results, prices reacting \$2 to \$3 per cwt. within ten days. At the inception of September live-mutton trade had a more encouraging appearance, indications being that the slump had run its course. Choice lambs went back to \$14.25 to \$14.75, and feeders to \$12.50 to \$13.50. Packers assert, somewhat logically, that current lamb prices are not out of line with quotations of a year ago, when wool, pelts, and by-product are taken into the reckoning; certain it is that the public is paying as much for lamb and mutton as at that time. Mature muttons have been hammered down to pre-war levels, thousands of fat ewes selling at \$5 to \$6 on the low August market, which should have insured a supply of cheap mutton. Native lambs have been thrown overboard, regardless of what they realized, seriously damaging the western grower, who is dependent on what his lambs realize to pay expenses, especially when the wool market is out of commission. Wethers at \$8 to \$8.50 and yearlings at \$9 to \$10.50 should mean cheap meat; but the public has not been benefited, as meat has been forced to carry the load in the absence of a market for wool and by-product.

PACKERS REVIEW MARKET CONDITIONS

REVIEWING the meat and live-stock situation during the month of August, the Institute of American Meat Packers has issued the following statement:

I. From the Consumer's Standpoint

"The outstanding feature in the meat situation during August was the great difference in price between the different grades of meat and the differential between various cuts from the same grade. For example, the difference between steer loins and cow loins ranged as high as 20 to 25 cents a pound. The differential between the best grade of fresh beef from steers and fresh beef from cows reached 8 to 10 cents a pound. The heavy demand for choice beef toward the end of the month sent the price of best live cattle to the highest point since last January. Similarly there has been a wide difference in the wholesale prices of various cuts from the same animal.

"With a reduced hog supply there has been a good demand for fresh pork which is marketed from current production. The prices of smoked meats have been somewhat lower than during July.

"Light hogs are still at a premium, since the people want chops from light loins. Loins weighing from fourteen to sixteen pounds have been selling at wholesale 6 to 8 cents a pound cheaper than loins weighing from eight to ten pounds. Experienced pork men insist that chops from the heavier loins are just as good. Some even maintain that the heavier hog is more likely to be well finished.

"Moreover, fresh pork shoulders, which are quite nutritious and palatable, have been selling very cheaply as compared with loins (whence come pork chops) from the same animal. Bellies from heavy hogs have been selling at wholesale for less than the dressed carcass cost. The belly, the bacon cut, is one of the choice cuts of the hog, but heavy bellies are at a disadvantage.

"The spread between 'choice' cuts and those which are less popular is quite wide in the case of both beef and pork.

"The price of lard shows little change, the tone of the market being slightly better. September lard on August 30 last year was \$27.67 per 100 pounds. On August 30 of this year September lard closed at \$18.45.

"September ribs closed on August 30, 1919, at \$21.87; on August 30, 1920, at \$15.05.

II. From the Producer's Standpoint

"Two elements in the August situation are of particular interest to the live-stock producer. One is the substantial spread between the price of live stock and the price of meat, this spread being caused in good part by the decreased value of hides and by-products. The other is the better export demand for pork products during August.

"It is customary at this season of the year to receive fair export orders from Europe, but the revival of these orders is especially gratifying at this time on account of recent conditions in the export trade. Many European countries have been buying only from hand to mouth, although stocks in some of these countries have been very low. Butter is quite scarce abroad, and there has been more demand for American fats as a consequence. There have been better inquiries and orders for lard and dry salt meats. On the whole, the export trade during August has been fair, particularly the trade with Scandinavia.

"There has been more or less of a decline in the contract price of pork and lard. This is generally attributed to the lower prices of grains. The seasonal demand for all kinds of cash pork products has been good.

"Producers undoubtedly must have noted the spread between live stock and meat prices on account of the decreased value of hides and by-products. These decreases, in the case of cattle, are equivalent to approximately \$2.50 per hundredweight on the basis of live weights. For example, the beef which the packer obtains by dressing range steers weighing 1,150 to 1,200 pounds alive, and selling in the present market around \$11 to \$11.50 per hundredweight, costs him just as much as did the beef from similar animals for which he paid \$13.50 to \$14 per hundredweight a year ago. He pays less for the cattle, but he also receives a great deal less for the hides and fats.

"During the first three weeks of August the sheep and lamb trade where the bulk of this meat is sold—the principal cities of the East—was unsatisfactory. This was because the receipts at Chicago and Missouri River markets were quite liberal as compared with the previous thirty-day period. Moreover, the receipts were larger at eastern markets. The result was an oversupply of lamb in the East, with considerably lower wholesale prices.

"The decline stimulated the trade, and this circumstance, coupled with decreased receipts of fat lambs suitable for slaughter, during the last week of August, has given the trade a healthier tone for lambs, both alive and dressed.

"Only moderate quantities of frozen lamb were on the market in August."

LITTLE ACTIVITY IN FEEDER MARKET

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., September 1, 1920.

CATTLE-FEEDERS are again buying stocks of chips and "sitting in" at a game they had sworn with many a double-pointed oath to abandon. Since May, memory of what happened early in the year has been a sore spot with a red mark around it. How that experience has repressed summer beef-making may be inferred from the diminutive output of stock cattle from June to September. Attention is forcibly called to this by a statement of feeder output at Omaha the last week in August, showing contraction of 50 per cent compared with the same period last year. At Chicago stocker men have been practically out of business, and at any market the appearance of a "live one" was the signal for commotion. Early in September, however, found feeders disposed to loosen up; in fact, some of them did the old chance-taking stunt, buying fleshy cattle at prices that gave the transaction a gambling appearance at its inception. With finished steers selling at \$17.50 to \$17.75, there may have been justification for taking cattle

to the country at \$16 to \$16.65 for a corn-crib cross, but few were disposed to run the obvious risk. At Kansas City feeders paid \$13 to \$13.50 for strings of sappy grassers, and at Chicago fleshy cattle were taken out at \$11 to \$12. The rank and file of Corn-Belt feeders are still sulking, however. In many cases bankers have refused financial accommodation, and commission houses are practically out of that business.

Recollection of the punishment administered good cattle early in the year has prompted feeders to go to the cheaper grades, creating popularity for \$8 to \$10 steers and \$6 to \$7 cows. Paraphrasing the demand of the fat-cattle buyer, feeders are clamoring for "something cheap." Possibly they will go to the other extreme, insuring a scarcity of good bullocks next winter and spring; in fact, some of the "wise guys" in the business take that view of the prospect and are paying a premium for quality. In any event, it looks as though the number of cattle going on feed this fall will be so much smaller than last year as to insure a good market, unless the public quits eating beef. Commission houses have definite information that thousands will crib corn and await developments. The regulars will all be in, and, if precedent is worth anything, will make some money, as feed will be materially reduced.

One problem confronting stocker men is disposal of the plain-bred and rough stocker that formerly went to the distillery. Although King Alcohol has not been put out of commission by the Eighteenth Amendment, legitimate distilling is a dead industry, and with it beef-making on slop. In former years, at this season, distillery feeders laid in from 100,000 to 200,000 of these rough western cattle. Last year their absence was not felt, because farmer feeders, in frenzied fashion, bought anything wearing a hide. This year they are more discriminating; consequently plain and rough light cattle are going to the shambles by the thousand at canner prices.

At this writing a big corn crop is in sight; but, as it is two to three weeks behind schedule time, and frost has a habit of visiting the Corn Belt in September, a vast quantity of unmerchantable corn may be harvested, in which event its owners will buy any kind of steer to salvage soft grain. Should the main portion of the crop mature, however, killers will have access to a lot of light cattle lacking quality at their own prices this side of December.

Thin western sheep and lambs are more popular than feeding cattle, because they made money last winter, while cattle lost heavily. Feeders are paying \$12.50 to \$13.25 for western lambs—prices only a few notches below quotations on fat stock. Should the wool market come to life, these prices will be justified; but, with every commodity sliding down the skids, purchasers are open to the suspicion of taking a chance.

Colorado feeders were in the range market for thin lambs early in September. One Denver outfit first bid \$9 per cwt. in Montana, and, failing to get many, called in its buyers; then raised to \$10, as Wisconsin and Iowa operators were picking up the stuff at \$9.50 to \$10. Northern Colorado will probably make an effort to feed as many lambs as last season, on the theory that territory east of the Missouri River will not fill up. An uncertain factor is the quantity of foreign frozen mutton to be dumped into the United States market during the next six months, and, notwithstanding protest to the contrary by packers, that movement has exerted a demoralizing influence on the live-mutton market.

Both killers and distributors are alive to the prospect, if not certainty, of diminished beef and mutton production in the areas where grain is the stand-by.

Funny the price of woolen clothing always fluctuates with the price of cotton.—*New York World*.

A gardener is a man who raises a few things, a farmer a man who raises many things, and a middleman one who raises everything.—*Volusia County (Fla.) Record*.

THE KANSAS CITY MARKET

BY SAMUEL SOSLAND

KANSAS CITY, Mo., September 4, 1920.

MONEY is in such scant supply for the live-stock industry of the Southwest that a loan-broker in the Live Stock Exchange Building at the yards here remarked today that he could place \$1,000,000 in a few hours at 10 per cent. "We cannot get enough money at 10 per cent for financing live-stock operations, despite the fact that that is almost a prohibitive rate," he added.

Only a small fraction of the volume of cattle and sheep paper normally sold on this market to outside banks is moving from here at present. The banks and loan companies which are disposing of paper to the East report that it is difficult to place the loans at 8 and 8½ per cent. After adding the customary 2 per cent to cover expenses and profits, the loans cost the borrowers 10 per cent. Regular customers of banks who carry deposits with them are faring better, but this source of funds is not sufficient to meet the credit requirements of the live-stock business of the Southwest.

Banks of the East, where money is also extremely tight, are reducing their holdings of cattle paper. One loan company, which was selling paper to a hundred different banks over the country a year ago, says that only ten banks are on its buying list today. Naturally, with the East liquidating a portion or all of its stock loans, money flowing into stockyard banks from the increasing movement of grass cattle and sheep is not going back into the industry in many instances. Country banks in winter-wheat sections are taking more cattle loans, but they are proving rather disappointing outlets, on account of the slow sale of wheat and the consequent light increase in their supply of loanable funds. Brokers are offering packers' paper to the country banks at 8 per cent.

A new record in receipts of calves for a month on the Kansas City market was established here in August. The arrivals were 65,835 calves, compared with 51,401 in August, 1919. The preceding record receipts were 60,862 calves in September, 1918. The calf crop was heavy last spring in the Southwest, but there is so much feed that no record in receipts would have been witnessed except for the pressure of tight money. It is also significant that an unusual number of well-bred cows only four to five years old are coming here from ranges, in order to enable the ranchmen to liquidate loans. Some fine Hereford cows have sold to packers at \$60 a head. Not so many months ago they were in active demand on Texas ranges at \$100 a head for breeding purposes.

Considering the influence of the money markets, the live-stock trade here made a good showing the past month. Cattle receipts were 248,883 head, compared with 271,325 a year ago. More would have come except for the fact that bankers permitted delays in marketing because of the desire of the holders to take advantage of the excellent pasture conditions. Depression in corn and improvement in the outlook for feed production in general offset in a measure the influence of tight money. Farmers and feeders of independent means were stimulated by the prospect of an enormous supply of feed to make stocker and feeder cattle purchases, and prices closed as much as \$1 higher. Stocker and feeder cattle shipments for the month were 75,333 head, against 92,063 a year ago. The shipments were 24.5 per cent of the total receipts, against a ratio of 29 per cent a year ago.

On the basis of current future prices on grain exchanges, corn is worth only 80 to 85 cents a bushel on farms. This, together with the general abundance of feed, would normally make Kansas City very bullish on its cattle and sheep trade outlook; for the feed situation is making thousands of farmers eager for stock, irrespective of the losses from feeding the past year. The feeling now, however, is that declines in

prices the remainder of the season are more likely than advances, unless the industry succeeds in obtaining more credit. There is slight hope of some help from the conference called for Chicago on September 10 to consider live-stock financing. Improvement in the credit situation would reduce forced shipments from ranges and increase competition from stocker and feeder buyers—a bullish combination. But the market faces a bearish combination—unless the supply of credit increases.

SOMNOLENCE STILL ENVELOPS WOOL MARKET

BY JAMES E. POOLE

WOOL-GROWERS ARE ANXIOUSLY AWAITING market reincarnation. The trade is awaiting resumption of operations by the American Woolen Company, of which there is no visible sign. No definite idea of the basis on which the market is likely to resume functioning exists. Eventually it will come to life, and wool will have a price.

That the world's markets are glutted with coarse wools is an admitted fact; that no surplus of fine wools exists is probable. Relative cheapness of coarse and medium grades may ultimately force them into consumption; but, even at bargain rates, they are not wanted at present. Boston reports low quarter-blood wools offered at from 8 to 9½ cents. These are Utah, Colorado, and Idaho product that should be blended with better grades to furnish the public with serviceable fabrics at reasonable prices. Good California wools are offered in Boston at from 20 to 25½ cents, without takers. Some eight-month Texas wools have recently sold at 42 cents, but the whole market is so restricted that quotations are narrow. Whenever dealers open their mouths, it is to insist that three-eighths and quarter-blood territory wools must sell lower; recent sales having been made at 70 and 90 cents per pound, clean basis, respectively.

New-clip wool is piling up at Boston, Chicago, and other concentration points. Growers must content themselves with advances of from 15 to 25 cents, which is not sufficient to relieve their strained financial condition in many cases. In the fleece states growers of farm wools are in easier position, as the clip represents by-product, whereas the western flock-owner depends on wool to pay expenses.

The situation does not warrant prediction. In trade circles an impression exists that the market will do little until after the election.

CLOSING WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN DRESSED FRESH MEATS

For Week Ending September 3, 1920

[Bureau of Markets]

BOSTON		LAMB AND MUTTON	
BEEF		LAMB:	
STEERS:		Choice	\$30.00-31.00
Choice	\$26.50	Good	29.00-30.00
Good	25.00-26.00	Medium	25.00-27.00
Medium	20.00-23.00	YEARLINGS:	
Common	17.50-19.00	Medium	20.00-21.00
COWS:		MUTTON:	
Good	17.00-17.50	Good	16.00-17.00
Medium	15.00-16.00	Medium	12.00-14.00
Common	14.00-14.50	Common	10.00-12.00

NEW YORK		LAMB AND MUTTON	
BEEF		LAMB:	
STEERS:		Choice	\$28.00-30.00
Choice	\$26.00-27.00	Good	26.00-27.00
Good	21.00-24.00	Medium	23.00-25.00
Medium	18.00-20.00	MUTTON:	
COWS:		Good	15.00-15.50
Medium	15.00-17.00	Medium	14.00-15.00
BULLS:		Common	10.00-12.00
Common	11.00-13.00		

LIVE-STOCK MARKET QUOTATIONS

September 3, 1920

[Bureau of Markets]

HOGS			
	CHICAGO	KANSAS CITY	OMAHA
Top	\$16.00	\$15.60	\$15.25
Bulk of Sales	14.10-15.90	15.00-15.50	14.20-14.60
Heavy Wt., Med. to Ch.	14.40-15.65	14.35-15.50	14.20-14.60
Medium Wt., Med. to Ch.	15.00-16.00	14.25-15.60	14.50-15.25
Light Wt., Com. to Ch.	15.25-16.00	15.30-15.60	14.60-15.25
Light Lits, Com. to Ch.	14.75-15.75		
Packing Sows, Smooth	14.00-14.30	13.00-14.00	14.10-14.25
Packing Sows, Rough	13.75-14.00	12.00-13.00	13.75-14.10
Pigs, Med. to Ch.	13.50-15.25		
Stocker Pigs, Com. to Ch.		12.25-15.35	12.00-14.50
CATTLE			
BEEF STEERS:			
Med. and Hvy. Wt. (1,100 lbs. up)—			
Choice and Prime	\$17.00-17.85	\$16.00-17.25	\$15.50-17.10
Good	15.00-16.75	14.00-15.90	14.25-15.50
Medium	12.25-14.75	12.00-13.90	12.00-14.25
Common	10.00-12.00	10.50-12.00	10.25-12.00
Light Weight (1,100 lbs. down)—			
Choice and Prime	16.75-18.00	16.00-17.25	16.00-17.10
Good	14.50-16.50	12.75-15.90	14.25-16.00
Medium	12.00-14.25	10.40-12.75	12.25-14.25
Common	8.50-11.50	8.50-10.40	9.25-12.25
BUTCHER CATTLE:			
Heifers, Com. to Ch.	6.50-15.00	5.75-13.75	6.00-13.00
Cows, Com. to Ch.	6.00-12.75	5.50-11.00	5.75-11.50
Bulls, Bologna and Beef	5.00-11.50	5.00- 8.60	5.50-11.50
CANNERS AND CUTTERS:			
Cows and Heifers	4.00- 6.00	3.50- 5.50	3.75- 5.75
Canner Steers	4.50- 7.50	4.25- 6.50	4.00- 7.25
VEAL CALVES:			
Lt. & Med. Wt., Med. to Ch.	15.00-17.75	9.00-14.50	9.75-12.00
Heavy Wt., Com. to Ch.	6.00-12.00	5.50-13.00	5.75- 9.75
FEEDER STEERS:			
Heavy Weight (1,000 lbs. up)—			
Common to Choice	8.25-12.25	9.35-12.25	9.75-12.75
Medium Weight (800-1,000 lbs.)—			
Common to Choice	7.75-11.50	8.90-11.75	8.75-11.50
Light Weight (800 lbs. down)—			
Common to Choice	7.50-11.00	8.50-11.00	7.50-10.75
STOCKER STEERS:			
Common to Choice	5.50-10.50	5.00-10.00	5.75-10.25
STOCKER COWS AND HEIFERS:			
Common to Choice	5.00- 9.00	4.50- 7.50	4.50- 8.00
WESTERN RANGE CATTLE:			
Beef Steers—			
Good to Choice	12.00-15.00		9.75-13.00
Common to Medium	8.50-11.50		7.25- 9.75
Cows and Heifers—			
Medium to Choice	8.00-10.50		6.00- 9.50

SHEEP			
84 lbs. down, Med. to Pr.	\$11.75-14.00	\$9.25-13.50	\$11.00-13.65
Culls and Common	7.75-11.50	6.75- 9.00	7.50-10.75
YEARLING WETHERS:			
Medium to Prime	8.50-10.50	7.00- 9.25	8.00- 8.75
WETHERS:			
Medium to Prime	7.25- 8.25	6.00- 8.00	7.00- 8.00
EWES:			
Medium to Choice	5.75- 7.25	4.75- 7.00	5.00- 7.00
Culls and Common	2.50- 5.25	2.25- 4.50	2.00- 4.75
BREEDING EWES:			
Full Mouths to Yearlings	5.75-10.50	5.75- 9.50	6.00-10.00
FEEDER LAMBS:			
Medium to Choice	11.75-13.25	9.50-13.00	11.00-13.00

REVIEW OF EASTERN MEAT-TRADE CONDITIONS

For Week Ending September 3, 1920

GENERAL MARKET CONDITIONS

Reacting from the general strong position of the previous two weeks, beef prices showed uneven declines, Philadelphia being the only exception. Lambs also followed the downward trend, closing steady to firm at the week's decline. Barring Philadelphia, veal markets were strong, followed by sharp and uneven advances. Pork held generally steady.

BEEF

Although weather conditions were more favorable, barring Philadelphia, there was a general weakness in all beef markets, and closing prices were fully \$1.50 to \$2 lower on all grades of both steers and cows than the week before, with greater declines shown on good and medium grades. The steadiness of the Philadelphia market was a feature of the week's beef trade, where a range of prices \$1 higher than the previous week was maintained. Practically no bulls, other than limited numbers of common Bolognas, were offered, and prices showed no material change. There was some unevenness in the demand for Kosher beef, although prices held generally steady.

LAMB

Lamb trade throughout the week was slow, and prices were fluctuating; Boston being the only market to remain steady. Philadelphia lost Monday's advance and closed in line with the previous Tuesday, while New York declined sharply after mid-week, closing \$2 below the previous week.

MUTTON

The generally slow demand for mature sheep, which has existed for the past three weeks, resulted in further declines in prices.

VEAL

There was a decided improvement in veal trade, and sharply advancing prices at all points except Philadelphia. New York gained \$3 to \$4 over the first of the week, and \$5 to \$6 over the previous week, on all grades. Boston's closing prices were \$3 higher than the previous Friday; while Philadelphia fluctuated during the week, but closed \$5 above the previous week.

PORK

Opening prices on fresh pork cuts, ranging mostly \$2 higher than the previous week's close, were well maintained, Boston showing slight additional gains during the week on the heavier average loins. Trade in shoulder cuts was light, but practically equal to the supply, and prices, while firm, showed no material change.

MARKET CLOSING

Boston closed weak and unevenly lower on beef, with trade practically at a standstill; lambs closed slow but steady, mutton weak, and veal and pork strong. Philadelphia made a good clearance, except a small carry-over of pork; all classes closed steady, with undertone strong on veal. Beef closed slightly weak at New York, veal strong, lambs firm, mutton weak to lower, and pork steady; there was a light carry-over of beef and pork.

THE HIDE MARKET

INACTIVITY CONTINUES to characterize the hide market. In spite of concessions offered to tanners, only small sales have been recorded. Prices quoted are merely nominal, and, although inquiries are increasing in number, no prediction is ventured as to the immediate future. An indication of the general price recession was furnished by the sale of fourteen carloads of spready steer hides in New York at 30 cents during the last week in August, compared with 40 cents paid last May. This class of leather is used mostly in the automobile and furniture industries.

Packer hides, according to *Hide and Leather*, were quoted as follows on the Chicago market for the week ending August 28:

	Price per Pound (Cents)	
	1920	1919
Spready steers	30-35	54
Heavy native steers.....	27-28	52-53
Heavy Texas steers.....	25-27	48
Light Texas steers.....	24-26	48
Colorados	22-23	48
Branded cows	22	50
Heavy native cows.....	28-30	53
Light native cows.....	25	61
Native bulls	24-26	43
Branded bulls	18-20	41
Calfskins (country)	20-37½	60-90

FEEDSTUFFS

PRICES FOR COTTONSEED CAKE declined about \$8 per ton during August. Cake or meal of 43 per cent protein content is being offered at Texas common points at \$49 per ton; cold pressed cake, at \$40 per ton; hulls in bulk, at \$4.50 per ton. Cake prices have declined more than cotton futures.

The hay market is quiet, with offerings larger and demand only fair. No material change in prices occurred during August. Quotations at Chicago: timothy, choice No. 1, \$36 to \$37; No. 2, timothy and clover mixed, \$30 to \$33; No. 3, timothy, \$25 to \$28; choice Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Nebraska prairie hay, \$25 to \$26; No. 1, \$24 to \$25; No. 2, \$22 to \$23; Illinois and Wisconsin feeding hay, \$15 to \$20. Prices at Kansas City: timothy, No. 1, \$27.50 to \$28.50; standard, \$25 to \$27; No. 2, \$21.50 to \$24; prairie hay, No. 1, \$18.50 to \$20; No. 2, \$16.50 to \$18; clover, mixed, \$25 to \$27; alfalfa, choice, \$30 to \$31; No. 1, \$27.50 to \$29.50; standard, \$24.50 to \$27; No. 2, \$22 to \$24.50; No. 3, \$15.50 to \$21.50.

Movement of wheat to terminal markets was light during August, both on account of shortage of cars and because of disposition of raisers to hold for better prices. Exports of wheat and flour were larger than for the same month last year. Movement of oats was large, and corn receipts were increasing. Both cash and futures of wheat were about steady with the close of July; corn and oats had a steady decline during August for both cash and futures. Corn conditions improved during the month, and all estimates place the yield at better than 3,000,000,000 bushels.

CHICAGO CASH PRICES SEPTEMBER 4

Winter wheat, bu.....	\$2.51 to \$2.59
Spring wheat, bu.....	2.55 to 2.65
Corn, bu.	1.38 to 1.45
Oats, bu.63 to .66
Barley, bu.	1.02 to 1.16

CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE QUOTATIONS ON FUTURES SEPTEMBER 4

Wheat—	
December	\$2.39
March	2.35
Corn—	
September	1.36
December	1.18
May	1.16
Oats—	
September63
December64
May67
Rye—	
September	1.85
December	1.72
Barley—	
September	1.00
December	1.02
Mess Pork—	
September	22.50
October	23.50
Lard—	
September	18.97
October	19.17
January	19.00
Sides—	
September	15.92
October	16.22

STORAGE HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELOW IS A SUMMARY of storage holdings of frozen and cured meats on August 1, 1920, compared with July 1, 1920, and August 1, 1919, as announced by the Bureau of Markets:

Commodity	Aug. 1, 1920 (Pounds)	July 1, 1920 (Pounds)	Aug. 1, 1919 (Pounds)
Frozen beef.....	78,250,162	95,296,702	159,278,573
Cured beef.....	23,978,769	26,355,203	30,943,145
Lamb and mutton...	2,351,380	4,310,527	7,263,304
Frozen pork.....	158,202,439	170,054,431	131,137,303
Dry salt pork.....	381,910,147	408,680,656	366,546,935
Pickled pork.....	387,525,969	403,718,851	384,763,765
Lard.....	193,462,921	193,315,999	100,477,624
Miscellaneous.....	79,927,123	86,047,081	91,447,739

LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

APPENDED ARE TABLES showing receipts, shipments, and slaughter of live stock at sixty-nine markets for the month of July, 1920, compared with July, 1919, and for the seven months ending with July, 1920, compared with the corresponding period last year:

RECEIPTS

	July		Seven Months Ending July	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	1,678,066	2,022,974	11,954,497	12,338,876
Hogs.....	2,849,628	3,011,163	26,735,016	28,477,954
Sheep.....	2,034,255	2,287,462	10,975,545	10,988,711

SHIPMENTS*

	July		Seven Months Ending July	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	734,024	716,528	4,874,532	4,747,053
Hogs.....	1,101,178	971,462	9,413,315	8,715,858
Sheep.....	1,029,443	1,091,718	5,228,268	4,735,600

*Includes stockers and feeders.

STOCKERS AND FEEDERS

	July		Seven Months Ending July	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	218,365	236,104	1,887,042	2,246,048
Hogs.....	27,213	44,295	494,428	505,723
Sheep.....	324,265	340,452	1,640,359	1,426,891

LOCAL SLAUGHTER

	July		Seven Months Ending July	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	939,827	1,272,157	6,991,349	7,447,358
Hogs.....	1,754,338	2,026,233	17,264,191	19,703,130
Sheep.....	1,001,763	1,204,985	5,789,935	6,255,415

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TRADE REVIEW

LIVE-STOCK PRODUCERS QUESTION BENEFIT OF FREE TRADE IN MEATS

BY JAMES E. POOLE

THAT LIVE-STOCK PRODUCERS are by no means satisfied with free trade is indicated by correspondence reaching Republican national headquarters on the subject. One of the earliest acts of the Wilson administration was placing live stock, meats, and wool on the free list. This policy was asserted to be in the interest of the multitudinous consumer. The extent to which he has been benefited may be inferred from current cost of subsistence. Consequently in that respect free trade has failed in its object. Nobody with a pipeful of sense will contend that free trade has stimulated domestic production.

Clamor for protection has been stimulated by recent sheep-market demoralization, due to heavy imports of frozen meats. Protest against existing conditions comes from thousands of individuals and many organizations; the desk of Dr. Work, who is in charge of the agricultural branch of campaign work, being literally submerged with such missives.

At this juncture the menace of foreign competition looms up even more threateningly, owing to advances in freight rates which give Southern Hemisphere producers with cheap water transportation a distinct advantage. Beef and mutton can be carried from South America and Australasia to Atlantic seaboard points for less money than from the Mississippi Valley and trans-Missouri points. This means that foreigners are to be put in a superior strategic position, and is something the live-stock grower should sit up and think about, as the meat-eating population east of the longitude of Buffalo and Pittsburg determines prices for the whole country.

Turning Atlantic seaboard markets over to foreigners may benefit packers and Southern Hemisphere live-stock producers. What it will accomplish for domestic producers needs no argument.

FOREIGN COMMERCE IN JULY

JULY EXPORTS increased 3.6 per cent over those of June, while imports fell off 2.9 per cent. The excess of exports next to that of June, was the smallest since late in 1914. Compared with July a year ago, imports were 56 per cent and exports 15 per cent larger. In spite of this slight increase in exports (due in large measure to considerable shippings of old-crop wheat), and imports which fell below expectations, there seems little reason to doubt that from now on the excess of exports from the United States will show diminishing totals. The figures follow:

	July, 1920	June, 1920	Seven Months Ending July	
			1920	1919
Exports.....	\$654,000,000	\$631,082,648	\$4,901,885,404	\$4,626,109,266
Imports.....	537,000,000	552,875,088	3,481,068,028	1,954,287,362
Excess of exports.....	\$117,000,000	\$78,207,560	\$1,420,117,466	\$2,671,851,904

"THE PRODUCER contains a great deal of valuable information and should be in every western stock-grower's hands."—S. G. Pierson, vice-president Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, Denver, Colo.

OUR FOREIGN TRADE IN LIVE STOCK, MEAT, HIDES, AND WOOL

BELOW ARE TABULATED the total numbers of live stock and quantities of meat products, hides and skins, and wool exported from and imported into the United States during the month of June, and the whole fiscal year ending June, 1920 and 1919, respectively, as announced by the Department of Commerce:

LIVE STOCK

EXPORTS (Numbers)

Animals	June		Twelve Months Ending June	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	13,332	6,105	93,039	42,345
Hogs.....	6,444	2,089	36,107	17,390
Horses.....	1,534	1,381	18,952	27,775
Mules.....	482	825	8,991	12,452
Sheep.....	14,958	214	59,155	16,117

IMPORTS (Numbers)

Animals	June		Twelve Months Ending June	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	24,381	23,478	575,328	440,399
From United Kingdom.....		183	1,301	695
From Canada.....	13,698	12,816	489,690	356,844
From Mexico.....	10,515	10,378	82,760	82,340
From other countries.....	168	101	1,577	530
Hogs.....	68	486	3,662	24,236
Horses.....	226	296	4,906	4,003
Sheep.....	1,863	319	199,549	163,283

MEAT PRODUCTS

EXPORTS (Pounds)

Articles	June		Twelve Months Ending June	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Beef products—				
Beef, canned.....	6,787,622	6,574,766	31,166,814	108,459,660
Beef, fresh.....	12,526,669	15,212,094	153,560,647	332,205,176
Beef, cured.....	2,563,702	4,766,468	32,383,501	45,065,641
Oleo oil.....	4,035,563	12,366,500	74,529,394	59,292,122
Oleomargarine.....	378,610	2,076,578	20,952,180	18,570,400
Tallow.....	1,927,854	5,043,109	32,897,026	16,172,111
Total beef products.....	28,220,020	46,039,515	345,489,562	579,765,110
Hog products—				
Bacon.....	60,730,935	172,441,100	803,666,917	1,238,247,321
Hams and shoulders.....	21,277,089	96,854,552	275,455,931	667,240,022
Lard.....	45,069,517	114,328,824	587,224,549	724,713,383
Neutral lard.....	2,103,698	2,864,888	23,202,027	17,395,888
Pork, canned.....	130,975	480,928	3,261,967	5,273,329
Pork, fresh.....	4,091,683	10,291,375	27,224,941	19,644,388
Pork, pickled.....	3,962,649	3,131,139	41,680,619	31,503,997
Total hog products.....	137,366,546	400,392,806	1,761,716,951	2,704,076,328
Lard compounds.....	3,709,480	12,884,899	44,195,842	128,157,327
Mutton, except canned.....	122,065	322,239	3,958,131	2,173,944
Sausage.....	1,373,194	2,131,974	21,785,113	18,225,505
Sausage casings.....	1,383,493	5,090,199	24,379,414	13,524,093
Stearin.....	1,621,191	2,714,038	22,505,602	11,537,284

IMPORTS (Pounds)

Articles	June		Twelve Months Ending June	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Fresh meats—				
Beef and veal.....	5,819,305	1,537,601	42,436,333	36,070,374
From Canada.....	3,630,699	1,095,826	31,277,668	26,604,396
From Argentina.....			1,371,890	2,621,244
From Uruguay.....	26,735		187,441	15,990
From Australia.....	243,137	33,415	2,416,978	719,575
From other countries.....	1,918,734	408,360	7,182,356	6,709,289
Mutton and lamb.....	2,033,200	4,276	16,358,299	4,542,317
Pork.....	50,896	59,030	2,132,944	2,744,412
Total fresh meats.....	7,903,401	1,600,907	60,927,566	43,957,103
Prepared or preserved—				
Bacon and hams.....	7,291	62,323	686,604	4,056,812
Bologna sausage.....	10,680	1,773	106,858	16,166
All others.....	170,824	958,807	3,370,266	135,878,504
Sausage casings.....	1,042,738	1,447,501	11,142,817	8,353,018
Tallow.....	1,134,688	3,358,381	10,751,437	10,808,742
All other meat products.....	982,222	571,879	6,312,047	6,813,532

HIDES AND SKINS

EXPORTS (Pounds)

Classification	June		Twelve Months Ending June	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Calf.....	55,860	899,008	2,875,600	2,778,393
Cattle.....	702,721	1,584,961	16,433,766	10,189,293
Horse.....		2,526	778,672	69,597
All other.....	315,303	172,822	4,016,411	1,735,437
Totals.....	1,073,884	2,659,317	24,104,449	14,772,720

IMPORTS (Pounds)

Classification	June		Twelve Months Ending June	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Buffalo.....	869,731	2,800,742	15,433,600	9,959,534
Cabretta.....		318	162,343	14,979
Calf.....	4,385,887	6,655,929	68,359,825	20,648,425
Cattle.....	21,908,941	30,163,038	439,461,092	253,876,730
Goat.....	6,764,588	15,458,134	126,995,612	89,001,528
Horse, colt, and ass.....	2,356,334	1,422,020	36,317,547	6,312,699
Kangaroo and wallaby.....	253,352	216,400	2,151,652	2,038,372
Sheep.....	8,106,355	5,977,022	100,866,446	61,895,515
All other.....	691,383	1,022,556	10,592,089	5,831,324
Totals.....	46,132,467	63,484,615	798,569,257	448,141,726

WOOL

EXPORTS (Pounds)

Classification	June		Twelve Months Ending June	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Unmanufactured.....	2,247,970	140,371	13,261,441	605,372

IMPORTS (Pounds)

Classification	June		Twelve Months Ending June	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Clothing.....	16,073,230	42,445,700	337,212,109	327,944,887
Combing.....	264,286	193,220	9,956,344	2,383,551
Hair of angora, alpaca, etc.....	493,434	575,777	8,183,837	7,908,092
Carpet.....	4,248,677	13,067,413	72,225,748	84,178,453
Totals.....	21,079,627	56,282,110	427,578,038	422,414,983

According to Washington advices, the high cost of living has reached the peak again. Old H. C. of L. must be leaping from peak to peak, as it were.—*New York Globe*.

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FOREIGN TRADE DURING FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1920

DETAILED RETURNS are now available of the volume of our foreign commerce for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1920. As previously noted, imports increased by considerably over two billion dollars, while exports showed an advance of less than a billion dollars, compared with the preceding twelve-month period. By groups, imports and exports were distributed as follows during the two years in question:

IMPORTS

	Twelve Months Ended June	
	1920	1919
Crude materials for manufacturing.....	\$2,141,644,621	\$1,250,674,773
Foodstuffs—		
Crude, and animals.....	622,439,745	376,222,730
Partly or wholly manufactured.....	891,336,464	456,200,261
Manufactures for further manufacturing.....	800,713,283	605,727,715
Manufactures for consumption.....	745,125,689	393,223,404
Miscellaneous.....	37,361,866	13,671,185
Totals.....	\$5,238,621,668	\$3,095,720,068

EXPORTS

	Twelve Months Ended June	
	1920	1919
Crude materials for manufacturing.....	\$1,968,118,442	\$1,226,395,137
Foodstuffs—		
Crude, and animals.....	626,577,003	719,340,233
Partly or wholly manufactured.....	1,514,616,127	1,783,512,167
Manufactures for further manufacturing.....	991,920,623	952,168,641
Manufactures for consumption.....	2,835,999,005	2,384,467,863
Miscellaneous.....	13,197,980	15,557,897
Total domestic exports.....	\$7,950,429,180	\$7,081,461,938
Foreign merchandise exported.....	160,610,553	150,820,748
Totals.....	\$8,111,039,733	\$7,232,282,686

By grand divisions and countries the trade balance presents the following aspect:

	IMPORTS FROM		EXPORTS TO	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Grand divisions—				
Europe.....	\$1,179,460,699	\$ 372,951,315	\$4,864,155,166	\$4,645,453,898
North America.....	1,486,459,842	1,052,567,498	1,635,813,316	1,288,157,869
South America.....	869,944,300	568,374,904	400,944,179	400,896,901
Asia.....	1,368,669,105	830,752,463	798,136,458	604,721,148
Oceania.....	157,891,783	190,008,129	193,235,039	208,411,495
Africa.....	185,195,939	81,065,769	128,755,575	85,157,432
Totals.....	\$5,238,621,668	\$3,095,720,068	\$8,111,039,733	\$7,232,282,686
Principal countries—				
Belgium.....	\$ 29,748,468	\$ 647,860	\$ 317,012,688	\$ 322,940,837
Denmark.....	13,791,663	2,294,048	125,170,679	92,932,530
France.....	172,022,935	62,691,037	716,811,629	979,269,522
Germany.....	45,085,975	944,981	202,176,079	8,818,882
Greece.....	22,229,915	22,876,904	48,707,778	22,907,750
Italy.....	92,420,177	21,573,527	398,065,795	502,140,996
Netherlands.....	100,635,422	30,652,531	254,449,827	103,801,757
Norway.....	15,025,415	3,219,245	115,332,889	101,636,460
Spain.....	40,416,915	30,979,183	123,909,485	98,931,638
Sweden.....	21,616,701	5,819,191	129,179,381	78,129,187
Switzerland.....	46,394,211	18,649,667	49,415,680	63,223,093
United Kingdom.....	524,020,493	157,107,578	2,151,336,423	2,149,765,813
Canada.....	537,377,381	469,954,818	890,135,023	810,745,160
Central America.....	50,191,510	43,768,322	73,221,102	47,334,532
Mexico.....	168,330,626	157,690,751	143,785,526	119,962,982
Cuba.....	645,571,828	337,654,142	396,595,049	229,545,704
Argentina.....	257,783,114	166,061,530	167,146,548	138,827,832
Brazil.....	281,217,794	125,283,489	115,020,317	93,294,275
Chile.....	112,637,825	135,602,542	44,290,985	70,288,581
Uruguay.....	52,118,859	47,323,263	27,805,629	27,775,692
China.....	226,887,848	105,954,245	119,143,828	83,884,421
British India.....	178,951,533	125,471,468	79,143,036	50,501,740
Dutch East Indies.....	95,801,266	71,036,606	45,647,245	44,845,561
Japan.....	527,220,867	303,993,041	453,147,063	326,462,269
Australia.....	56,771,763	74,643,999	85,791,174	109,084,688
Philippine Islands.....	72,962,140	82,490,760	71,009,094	60,040,876
British South Africa.....	36,513,929	36,388,174	48,703,336	44,841,871
Egypt.....	105,872,508	23,934,571	27,229,699	10,293,189

Cuba has shown its gratitude to America by subscribing handsomely to the Roosevelt Memorial Fund. It has not yet, however, done anything for Mr. Volstead.—*Philadelphia Public Ledger.*

FOREIGN

LIVE-STOCK INTERESTS IN AUSTRALASIA

BY A. C. MILLS

[Special Correspondence to The Producer]

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, July 15, 1920.

IT IS EITHER A FEAST OR A FAMINE in this land. For months past I have been recording droughts, and now I have to report floods. What is more, they have been worse in the very sections that suffered most during the dry period. The drought broke in June, but the weather remained showery until this month, when heavy rains again set in which produced floods over the central, west, and north of the State of New South Wales. Stock in poor condition fared badly in this second visitation, although the actual losses through drowning were not heavy. Usually in this country it is possible to give plenty of warning before the waters reach a given place, and so move stock. Unfortunately, considerable mortality resulted from exposure and bogging. A large proportion of the central-west plains are of a deep black soil, which, when it gets properly wet—especially after all the grasses, etc., have been eaten out—takes on the consistency of glue. Strong, healthy stock can generally battle along, but animals in weak condition get down—and that is the end. Thank goodness, floods do not come often or last long!

Apart from the over-saturated areas, the season is developing splendidly, and, considering that it is midwinter, grass and herbage are making remarkable growth. Paddocks that were as bare as the back of your hand a month ago already carry sufficient feed for sheep, and in a short time cattle also will be able to do without hand-feeding.

The improvement in the grazing outlook is strikingly reflected in the live-stock markets. Breeders for stocking-up purposes are practically unprocurable—at least at rates that can give the buyer any hope of making a reasonable profit. Up to \$14.50 a head is being asked for ordinary young Merino ewes in New South Wales, and \$12 is common in the country everywhere. Cross-breds are a shade lower, on account of the wool being of less value. Quite common cows, of no particular breeding, are selling at from \$40 to \$50, according to locality, and fair grades are at \$125 or more. Fats are so scarce that there is almost a famine of fresh meat in some cities, and record rates are being paid for stock suitable for the butchering trade. For instance, at the Sydney municipal sale-yards this week prime bullocks are averaging \$135 to \$145 a head; cross-bred wethers, three-quarter woolled, \$13.50 to \$14.50, with many extras at up to \$17; and cross-bred ewes, \$12.75 and dearer. At the Adelaide yards prices are higher still, prime bullocks going from \$185 to \$225, and in a few cases selling up to \$290; cross-bred wethers are \$13.50 to \$14.50, and ewes \$12.75 to \$14. In Melbourne this week prime bullocks are worth \$180 to \$215, cross-bred wethers \$13.25 to \$14.50, and ditto ewes \$11.50 to \$12.50. Values are more steady in Queensland. At the Brisbane yards lately good bullocks, suitable for the block, have been selling around about \$90 per head.

Of course, the foregoing extreme rates should drop to some extent when spring supplies begin to come into the yards, but it is pretty certain that the cities are in for a period of dear meat. With the object of counterbalancing the shortage, arrangements have been made to release some of the frozen meat

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lying in cool store. On June 30 there were approximately 20,000 tons of beef and 1,200,000 carcasses of mutton and lamb in store, waiting shipment overseas.

The total exports of frozen meat from Australia for the two months ended June 30, 1920, compared with those for the previous year, were as follows:

	1920	1919
Beef quarters.....	892,498	721,861
Mutton carcasses.....	3,726,502	1,066,600
Lamb carcasses.....	1,958,731	122,962

The beef shipments, although larger than in 1918-19, were small compared with 1914-15, when over 2,000,000 quarters were exported. A drought in the main cattle-breeding country of the north in 1915, which reduced the calving that year, accounts for the small output. It is confidently anticipated that exports will show an improvement in volume next year—at all events, the following year.

An aggregate export of 5,685,233 carcasses of mutton and lamb during one year constitutes a record for Australia. Here again drought conditions had an effect on the output, but in this case increasing instead of diminishing the quantity. As pastures dried off, graziers hurried their stock into the markets, and the meat-works were able to get full supplies practically the whole year round. The fact that the works absorbed over five and a half million head at good prices during a critical time has been of tremendous benefit to graziers. Had there been no frozen-meat export trade to fall back on, the losses from starvation must have been ever so much heavier than they were. Of course, next season's shipments will be small, as graziers hit by the drought will have to draw on the surplus sheep for stocking-up purposes, and there will not be many left for export.

Of the total exports during the 1919-20 season, 88.8 per cent of the beef, 95.8 per cent of the mutton, and 97.9 per cent of the lamb were shipped to Great Britain. With regard to

the remainder, some went to the islands lying to the north of Australia, a little to South Africa to relieve drought shortage there, and a few small shipments to San Francisco and Vancouver, B. C.

No direct shipments of Australian lamb or mutton have been made to the eastern ports of the United States, but a considerable quantity of lamb is going from New Zealand. One report says that contracts have been entered into for the delivery of 1,000,000 carcasses, and another report states 1,500,000 carcasses. As it is known that arrangements have been made for six boats to load, one being dispatched each month from July on, and 500,000 carcasses were sent in March and April, it looks as if the 1,500,000-carass report were the true one. The lamb is being drawn from current-season stocks held in the Dominion on account of the British government. It is understood the sale, which was arranged by the British Board of Trade, is on the basis of 15 cents per pound f. o. b., plus freight at 4½ cents, plus 5 per cent per pound, and plus insurance at 2 per cent. The average weight per carcass is to be thirty-three pounds.

I have had occasion to remark in previous letters that this deal is viewed with suspicion by the New Zealand government. This is especially the case since it has transpired that Armour's are mixed up in it. W. Nosworthy, Minister for Agriculture, had something to say on this subject the other day, and perhaps his remarks may be of interest. Referring to eulogistic accounts of the quality of the initial shipments that appeared in American papers, he said that old birds were not to be caught with chaff, and in his opinion there was no doubt that the trust had engineered the reports. He had no objection to the Americans taking surplus meat and clearing New Zealand stores, but he, and the government, were determined that the trust should not become established in New Zealand and manipulate the markets. The government would watch the position very carefully, and although the Americans were putting forward a very attractive propaganda, the government was not deceived. The meat trust would not be permitted to do in New Zealand what it had done in other countries.

ENGLISH LIVE STOCK FALLING OFF

Returns of the census of June 4, 1920, show the following live-stock supplies in England and Wales on that date, compared with the numbers reported a year ago:

	1920	1919
Cattle.....	5,546,900	6,194,540
Sheep.....	13,378,970	15,124,310
Hogs.....	1,994,740	1,798,470

In cattle, those over two years old are the only class showing an increase.

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Cheyenne—to—California 11 HEAD REGISTERED HEREFORDS

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—They were choice ones, too—

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Hereford Corporation, Cheyenne, Wyo.

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20 Heifers coming 1 year old
15 Bulls coming 2 years old

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Johnson Bros. Herefords

Gay Lad 12th 395804 heads our herd. Sire of the first prize car of yearling heifers that sold for \$1,000 per head.

Gay Agnes, sold to O. Harris & Sons for \$6,650, was top female sale at Denver show.

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JOHNSON BROS., Eagle, Colorado

L. G. Davis Anxiety 4th Herefords

Herd sired by
**BEAU CARLOS 2nd,
WYOMING**
and other noted bulls.

We now have bred and open heifers for sale, singly or in car lots; also few choice young herd bulls.

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ANXIETY 4TH Sires:

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Mischief Domino 3rd, by Beau Mischief
Dam, Gramophone 6th, by Domino
Mischief Jr. 12th, by Beau Mischief Jr.
Dam, Donna Anna 22nd, by
Beau Brummel

These two richly bred bulls at the head of a herd of straight Anxiety cows of extreme quality should produce cattle which will be a credit to the breed.

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that whenever or wherever the name **GOLDEN EAGLE** is mentioned recollections of *Money Saved on Dependable Merchandise* are bound to follow?

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We Buy for LESS
Selling for CASH
We Sell for LESS



ENGLISH LIVE-STOCK LETTER

BY JOSEPH RAYMOND

[Special Correspondence to The Producer]

LONDON, August 16, 1920.

THE EXCITEMENT which a month ago was universal in the fat-stock circles of Great Britain, on account of the lifting of control on the home-killed trade, has largely died away, and prices have receded from the excessive height to which they quickly soared, as reported in my last letter.

During the past month, in fact, marketings of fat stock have been quite moderate, farmers adopting the policy of keeping the market free from glutting at a season which might prejudice matters later. There is, of course, a vast quantity of frozen meat to be shipped to England from the Antipodes in a month or two, and it is not likely that prices will be allowed to rise this winter.

The question of the free frozen meat following up the stocks already bought in New Zealand and Australia by the imperial government is one which mainly affects producers in the Southern Hemisphere. A fair amount of Argentine beef has been arriving in London and Liverpool during the past month, though certain conditions prevent the quantity reaching at present anything like its old proportions. Loss on exchange and coaling difficulties on the River Plate route are numbered among these hindrances. This chilled beef occupies a superior position altogether above frozen beef in the consuming markets, and much heart-burning is caused by sellers using this fact to dispose of quantities of frozen meat according to their purchases.

The public, hearing of decline in the values of fat stock of late, has expected retail prices to be fixed on an easier basis, but the retail trade explains that the very heavy drop in the value of hides and offals (hides are \$10 each cheaper) renders this impracticable. Tallow and sheepskin prices have also fallen off considerably. Meat-retailers are not yet satisfied, as a body throughout the country, that they have got prices on an adequate basis, in view of the present wholesale values, and they are arranging to work on a combined basis in the issue of weekly prices through their federation. In the Glasgow market some current wholesale prices are as follows: best Scotch beef, 37 to 38 cents per pound; secondary and Irish, 34 to 36 cents; hogs, 42 to 44 cents; lambs, 44 to 46 cents.

If an average could be struck of current prices of fat cattle of good quality, it would work out at about \$20.50 per 112 pounds, live weight (reckoning \$4 to £1), with a dead-weight rate of \$4.60 per fourteen pounds. First-quality sheep average 46 cents per pound throughout the country, and lambs 53½ cents. In London, Scotch and Down sheep realize 48 cents per pound, and Longwools 40 cents. Lambs have reached 60 cents at York. Very high prices continue to be paid for calves. Store stock generally show a tendency to recede to easier prices.

Meat-raisers in this country are being widely counseled to use foresight in their present policy, and not to let the herds and flocks of the kingdom suffer by reason of a mad desire to cash all their meat at high prices. Up to the present it is believed that no serious inroads have been made into the country's stock from this cause, but the statistics which were collected only a month or so ago may show that the national position is not yet satisfactory, especially in regard to sheep.

Complaint is being made in farming circles that the authorities, in the course of their campaign for the development of land settlement, have reverted from their policy of acquiring land hitherto imperfectly developed, and chosen instead to seize some of the best-farmed and fruitful holdings in the country. This compulsory acquisition is spreading dismay among farmers, who have noted the bad effect of this governmental method

on sheep farms in Scotland. It is hoped that growing agitation against this practice may be effectual in arresting the danger.

As a development of considerable interest in the meat-retailing trade of Great Britain there may well be recorded here the pending sale of the fifty-year-old multiple meat shop business of Messrs. Eastmans, Ltd., to Messrs. Vestey Brothers, the proprietors of the great cold-store concern, the Union Cold Storage Co., Ltd., owners of several subsidiary food businesses, and controllers now of more than \$120,000,000 of capital engaged in food and refrigeration enterprise. Eastmans have owned upwards of a thousand frozen-meat shops in all parts of Great Britain, and have in their day been as prominent a c. i. f. buyer of frozen meat from the big Australasian works, and also from the South American frigorificos, as perhaps anyone in the trade. The present purchase scheme, as this letter goes to mail, has yet to be confirmed by the shareholders.

Another strong effort is being put forward just now to secure freedom to import Canadian cattle on the hoof again. It is contended that, if this were allowed, Britain would in a very short space of time have store cattle at \$100 per head and milch cows at \$160 per head, instead of being forced to pay Ireland the exorbitant prices of \$180 and \$240 per head, respectively. It is declared that Britain is by no means free from foot-and-mouth disease, although Canada has had no outbreak for thirty-six years, so that the fear of importing that evil cannot hold as an argument for the continued exclusion of the Canadian live beasts. It is averred that last year Canada was forced to sell to the United States of America over 400,000 head of cattle that should, it is claimed, have been imported into England to lower the price of foodstuffs.

A question which was asked and answered in Parliament a week or so ago deserves attention here. Mr. Clynes, the Labor ex-Food Controller, asked Mr. McCurdy, the present Food Minister, what the Ministry of Food was now doing with regard to trusts. The reply was that they were still engaged in the difficult task which was left for the first Food Controller to take in hand—namely, that of laying a foundation of statistical information with regard to world supplies and prices, which was the sole foundation upon which anyone can commence either to understand or to endeavor to deal with the problem of the trusts. That side of the work was, added Mr. McCurdy, one to which he had given special attention since he assumed office as Food Controller.

EUROPEAN NEWS NOTES

Live Stock in Greece

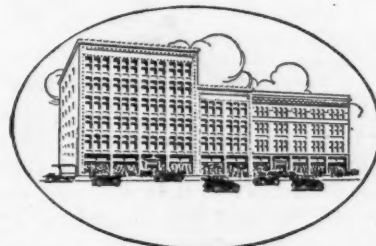
A recent enumeration of live stock in Greece, including the newly acquired territories, gives the numbers of the different classes as follows: cattle, 704,000; sheep and goats, 11,015,000; hogs, 389,000; horses, mules, and asses, 802,000. This is the first census since 1914.

Government of France Will Sell Frozen Meat

In order to reduce the price of meat in France, the government proposes to throw on the market large quantities of frozen meat, bought on favorable terms under contract. It is estimated that this plan will permit the sale of chilled meat at a price 20 or 25 per cent lower than that of fresh meat.

Spanish Stock-Raisers Object to Meat Imports

Stock-breeders in Spain have inaugurated a vigorous campaign against the proposed importation into that country of large quantities of frozen meat from Australia and Argentina. With the rapidly increasing number of refrigerating vessels available for this trade, they fear that a death-blow will be dealt to the huge profits they have been reaping during the war and since.



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Germany to Participate in Foot-and-Mouth Congress

Renewing her interrupted scientific relations with the outside world, Germany will be represented at the international congress on foot-and-mouth disease to be held at Buenos Aires this month. German scientists believe they can contribute much valuable information to the congress.

French Harvests Disappointing

French harvests now being gathered are proving deceptive, say Paris advices. There are plenty of sheaves, but the yield of grain will be light. The total cereal crop is estimated at 7,315,000 tons, and it is predicted that 2,200,000 tons must be imported to meet the deficiency. All of this, it is added, will have to come from North America.

Italian Government to Insure Live Stock

Insurance of domestic animals has been provided for by the Italian government. In the past the farmers of Italy carried all their live-stock insurance with local mutual-benefit companies, which were unable to protect them against abnormal losses. Under the new decree branches of the National Institute for Live-Stock Insurance will be established at all important centers.

Southeastern Europe to Have Little Surplus Grain

Indications are that the exportable surplus of grain from southeastern Europe will not amount to more than one-fourth of pre-war quantities. In Rumania (including the newly acquired provinces of Transylvania and Bessarabia) the wheat and rye situation is reported to be unsatisfactory, while there is a surplus of corn on hand. In Bulgaria and Jugoslavia the wheat and rye condition is considerably better, and here, too, the corn crop promises to be above the average.

Belgian Government Buying Frozen Meat

The continental prejudice against cold-storage meat is rapidly waning. Recently the Belgian government concluded a deal with the British Board of Trade for the delivery of 37,000 tons of frozen meat monthly. Much of the meat to be disposed of in this way was originally destined for the United States. An effort is being made to provide Belgium with adequate facilities for handling this class of meat. A central warehouse has just been finished, and refrigerator cars are being built.

British Farmers Assured Cost of Grain Production

A bill has been introduced in the Parliament of Great Britain assuring the British farmer cost of production for his wheat and oats for the next three years. An investigation conducted by a special committee fixed the cost of production

of wheat in England in 1919 at \$1.66 a bushel and of oats at 87 cents a bushel (at the present rate of exchange). The same method of figuring will be followed for the 1920, 1921, and 1922 crops, and the guaranteed prices will be raised or lowered according to the rise or fall in production cost.

Hog Industry Unprofitable in Denmark

Danish hog-raisers are complaining that the low price offered for their bacon by the British Ministry of Food, combined with the high cost of grains, has made their industry unprofitable. After the armistice Denmark began to build up her depleted swine herds afresh, relying upon the British market to absorb her surplus product, as before the war. Last spring the co-operative bacon factories had reached a weekly killing rate of 20,000 hogs, as compared with the pre-war average of 50,000. Killings are now said to have fallen off to about 11,000 head a week, and many producers have been compelled to quit the business.

Germans Abandon Meat Cards

September 1 saw the abolition of the "meat card" throughout Germany. This card, introduced May 1, 1916, limited each inhabitant to a certain weekly ration. The per-capita meat consumption has now reached about one-half of the normal, pre-war amount, and is slowly rising with augmented importations. Large quantities of Argentine frozen beef, of excellent quality, are arriving. The retail price of American beef is at present 7.50 marks a pound, while the cheapest domestic grade sells for 9 marks. (The par value of the mark is 23.82 cents; at the beginning of September it was quoted at about 2 cents.) The Food Minister is reported to be getting ready to conclude new contracts for food imports, and to be contemplating an initial purchase abroad of 180,000 tons of meat and bacon, 144,000 tons of fat, 500,000 tons of fish, and 750,000 tons of food oil, besides millions of tons of grain and flour.

CANADIAN NOTES

Yields of wheat and oats are reported to promise better than some time ago, and the quality is generally good. Italy is buying wheat freely.

Ten years ago, says a dispatch, 80 per cent of the cattle in British Columbia were infected with tuberculosis. Last year only 2½ or 3 per cent were so infected. Government veterinarians predict that within a comparatively short time the disease in that province will have been completely stamped out.

Dr. S. F. Tolmie, Canadian Minister of Agriculture, announces that the government has continued for another year

George C. McMullen, President

C. R. Kern, Vice-President

George M. Grimes, Secretary and Treasurer

McMULLEN-HARMON

LIVE STOCK COMMISSION COMPANY

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the privilege of free entry of cattle from the United States into the Dominion. He likewise states that an order-in-council probably will be issued shortly providing for the free importation of United States sheep.

The Canadian Wheat Board, whose powers were continued by a recent act of Parliament, will not exercise control over the 1920 wheat crop in Canada, and the marketing of this crop will therefore revert to the normal methods of pre-war times. As a result of this decision, the feasibility is being considered of forming a co-operative farmers' pool to market the Canadian wheat crop in Europe.

Trading in Canadian and domestic wools continues slow. Dealers have very light stocks of fleeces on hand. Considerable quantities of wool are still held by farmers, but the fair prices being offered have a tendency to cause the movement of this to warehouses for grading. Prices at the beginning of September remained unchanged and ranged, on the western product, from 55-59 cents for fine staple down to 20-22 cents for coarse.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA AS A CATTLE COUNTRY

"NO ONE who has had any experience of the colony will for a moment deny that British East Africa possesses most of the essentials to render it an ideal stock country," says the author of an English publication entitled "Farming and Planting in British East Africa," as quoted in the *Pastoral Review* of Melbourne. "The climate of the highlands is so equable that the housing of cattle is quite unnecessary at any time of the year." The native grasses are unsurpassed, and even during the dry periods cattle keep fat without the aid of artificial feeding. Both pink and white clover are indigenous plants, and in many districts thickly cover the ground. There are two rainy seasons annually.

"By no means the least important attraction of British East Africa as a cattle country is the abundance and excellence of the native stock. From the coast up to Victoria Nyanza are to be found vast herds of animals, suitable for grading, in possession of the natives, and, although the price is steadily increasing, good cows may be bought at figures well within their value. At first sight the native cow will probably disappoint the newcomer; her small size no less than her humped shoulder, drooping quarter, and varied color being alike typical of the Zebu tribe to which she belongs; but she is hardy and thrifty, and mated with a pure bull produces offspring which partake of most of the good qualities of their sire, whilst losing the character of the dam. . . . In herds in which a Shorthorn bull is used the young stock—even of the first cross—are Shorthorns in make and shape, an occasional example of unorthodox color-

Buffalo Grass SHORTHORN HERD

RAISED OUT THIRTY-FIVE YEARS

Sired by the best Bulls I could buy and breed
Twenty-five Young Bulls that will sire
Market Toppers and Champions

SAMUEL BALL, Wray, Colorado

ing alone indicating descent from a breed in which almost every variety of hue is to be found. The improved dairy qualities of the half-bred are nothing short of marvelous. The quality of the milk given by the native cow is so remarkably rich—containing something like 6 per cent of butter fat—that the enormously increased bulk yielded by the graded animal will still show an excellent analysis, and, more than this, the lactation period frequently lasts until the cow is again near to calving."

Certain drawbacks exist, we are told, although none of them are of a serious nature. The chief difficulty with which cattle-raisers have to contend is the long list of animal diseases prevailing in the colony:

"Perhaps the most prevalent disease of all is east-coast fever, which is endemic over large areas. Heavy losses were formerly caused by this disease, but they have steadily been decreasing since the introduction of dipping, and dipping-tanks have during recent years been installed throughout the country. Rinderpest has lost the terrors it formerly had since the Government Veterinary Department has provided the means for inoculation with virulent blood and serum. The same department provides effective sera for preventing the spread or the occasional outbreaks of blackleg, anthrax, and the colon bacillus which have occurred in various districts. . . . Contagious abortion is known in the country, but has hitherto not caused much trouble; whilst scour in calves, and sundry other maladies which occasionally crop up, appear to yield to that panacea of all ills—the dip."

The wild animals for which this part of Africa is famous present another obstacle:

"The buffalo, eland, and some others are peculiarly susceptible to rinderpest, which they spread broadcast, while even the zebra disseminates an intestinal worm harmful to domestic stock. Lions abound in many parts, and occasionally take toll of the settler's herd, whilst rendering yarding at night essential, and thus preventing the practice of ranching, which otherwise would be advantageous. Now and then snake-bite causes the loss of an animal, but for a tropical country East Africa is wonderfully free from poisonous reptiles, while comparatively few of its rivers are infested by crocodiles.

TAGG BROS. & MOORHEAD

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CATTLE—HOGS—SHEEP

ON COMMISSION ONLY

UNION STOCK YARDS, Omaha, Nebraska

YOUR CONSIGNMENTS RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED

Write for Our "Weekly Market Comments"—Furnished Free

"Throughout the country may be found land suitable in every particular to stock; but should the prospective cattle-farmer fail to find such a locality within the reach of his means, he need not be disheartened, for tens of thousands of acres of land at first sight unsuitable may well be turned to account for the purpose. The East African cow wanders great distances while grazing, and also requires water at less frequent intervals than its European sister, one drink at midday being ample for its requirements. Hence an otherwise desirable cattle farm should not be rejected on account of the distance of water from the homestead—even several miles being none too long a journey for the midday drink."

Several of the East African tribes are born herdsmen, whose sole thought is for the welfare of their cattle. Each herd is usually under the care of a native who, armed with spear and umbrella, accompanies his charges on their daily wanderings and brings them home at night. He is an indifferent milker, but, on the other hand, seems to be quite up to date in his familiarity with the technique of watering the milk, in order that there may be some left for himself.

"In spite of its drawbacks," concludes the writer, "East Africa is probably destined to be, for its size, one of the greatest cattle-breeding countries in the world."

DROUGHT IN ARGENTINA

A SEVERE DROUGHT has stricken large sections of Argentina, seriously crippling the live-stock industry. In many places grass has entirely disappeared, and the supplies of hay are exhausted. Cattle are being shipped to market in large numbers, causing radical price depressions. Money is scarce, and stock-growers are organizing their own banks to take care of their financial interests.

Exports from Argentina for the first six months of 1920 show a remarkable increase in shipments of grain, compared with the corresponding period of last year. Following are the

quantities of grains, meat products, wool, and hides exported from that country during the first half of 1920 and 1919, respectively:

	1920	1919
Wheat (tons)	4,198,685	838,165
Corn (tons)	1,917,710	856,820
Beef (quarters)	2,565,485	2,612,585
Mutton and lamb (carcasses) ..	717,796	882,140
Wool (bales)	130,054	93,774
Ox hides (number)	1,767,082	1,624,503

GRAIN EXPORTS SHOW DECLINE

HAND IN HAND with the marked decrease in our exports of meats during the twelve months ending June, 1920, compared with those of the previous fiscal year, as shown in the tables printed on page 37, has gone a corresponding reduction in our exports of cereals. The following tabulation exhibits the quantities of grains and wheat flour shipped out of the United States during the two periods named:

	1919-20	1918-19	Difference
Wheat (bu.)	122,430,724	178,582,673	-56,151,949
Corn (bu.)	14,446,559	16,687,538	-2,240,979
Rye (bu.)	37,463,285	27,540,188	+ 9,923,097
Barley (bu.)	26,671,284	20,457,781	+ 6,213,503
Oats (bu.)	33,944,740	96,360,974	-62,416,234
Wheat flour (bbl.)	21,651,261	24,181,979	-2,530,718

This diminished demand on the part of foreign nations for American food products reflects a general trade tendency, other evidences of which we have touched upon from time to time in these columns. Europe, in spite of all obstacles, is struggling to her feet and supplying in ever-increasing measure her own needs. Lessened requirement for outside aid in feeding her people is emphasized by greater necessity for economy at home.

The Knollin Sheep Commission Company

[INCORPORATED—\$50,000.00, FULLY PAID UP]



Grand Champion load of lambs at the 1918 International, fed by the Heart's Delight Farm, Chazy, New York, and sold at 40½ cents a pound — a record price — by the championship firm, *The Knollin Sheep Commission Company*, the big sheep firm at the two big sheep markets.

It is to your interest as well as ours to get into communication with us, if you are buying or selling sheep. Do not overlook us at either Chicago or Omaha. Write for our Weekly Market Bulletin, issued every week.

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F. W. SHURTE, Feeder Buyer

E. BEILFUS, Native Salesman

ROUND THE RANGE

NEW TALES FROM THE RANGE

From the press of the *Breeders' Gazette* has appeared a volume of range stories, under the title of "Tales from the X-Bar Horse Camp." The author is Will C. Barnes, who needs no introduction to readers of *THE PRODUCER*. The efficient and popular head of the Grazing Division of the Forest Service has been a frequent contributor to our columns; from the chapter of his earlier life whose scenes were laid among the men and pursuits of the cattle country he will be remembered by a multitude of friends and companions.

Reminiscently and imaginatively, out of his vast store of experience and observant sympathy, Mr. Barnes has spun a string of twenty charming tales, instinct with the spirit of a waning West, breathing in every paragraph a deep understanding of its people, their ways and thoughts, their language and problems. His style is simple and subdued, wholesomely free from the gory sensationalism and the vapid sentimentality by which the professional literary exploiter of life on the frontier is wont to lend color and atmosphere to his output. Through its very restraint it carries solid conviction. His men and beasts are real blood and sinew.

The book, of 217 pages, sells for \$2.50 and may be had from the office of the publishers, 542 South Dearborn Street, Chicago.

RED CALVES FROM BLACK COWS

"When your pure-bred Angus cow drops a red calf, or when your registered Holstein heifer presents you with a red-and-white youngster, what do you do?" asks the *Prairie Farmer*. "Probably you wonder where she could have got that mongrel blood in her, and quietly and quickly get rid of the off-color calf." A bulletin issued by the University of Wisconsin gives an interesting explanation of the occurrence of an occasional red calf in a herd of pure-bred black cattle:

"In mating black and red, the offspring are black, but there will be in that offspring some red blood. Should this black calf be mated to a red cow, the offspring would be red. The same is true if it be mated to another calf produced from a red and black cross. If mated to a black animal, the result would be a black calf. The chance is one in four that a red calf will be produced when two blacks carrying red are mated.

"All breeds are of mixed origin and include in their ancestry animals of various colors. The first thing worked for in establishing a breed was type; color came afterwards. The Angus breed is believed to be of black foundation stock with red crosses. For this reason red Angus calves are occasionally dropped, especially where there is considerable inbreeding, which tends to bring out the undercurrent red.

"Holsteins were largely red until 1750. Black-and-white cattle were introduced in Holland, and that color became more popular. Red-and-white Holsteins are still common there and are registered in a separate part of the herd-book. In this country, however, there is a strong prejudice against red-and-white Holsteins, and their appearance often raises suspicion as to the purity of breeding.

"Both parents are equally to blame for the throwing of a red calf in a black breed. It is possible, however, to test bulls for the presence of red blood by mating them with red cows. If he carries no red blood, the resulting calves will be black. Should he have any red blood, the cross will produce some red offspring. It is not certain that a sufficient increase in price could be obtained to make the practice advisable, except in the case of valuable animals to be used in a large pure-bred herd.

"A more liberal-minded attitude on the part of breeders of black cattle toward the occasional red calf would do much to reduce the loss now arising from the appearance of such a youngster in the herd."

HOW ANIMALS KEEP CLEAN

"As filthy as a pig" is one of those time-honored phrases which everyone accepts on faith. But, intimates a writer in the *Dearborn Independent*, the implication is not altogether justified. A hog takes to the cess-pool with relish only because he loves water more. If near a

river, he will forsake his wallow and enter the stream with evident satisfaction. The wild boar rolls in the mire, and then completes his toilet by rubbing against a tree.

This instinct of cleanliness pervades the whole animal kingdom, expressing itself in many different ways:

"Cats, as a whole, seem to have a cordial aversion to water and dislike to bathe in it; they prefer saliva. The rough tongue makes a first-class hair-brush, and where the tongue fails to reach, the paws will.

"Monkeys are very particular about their toilet. They use the hand or forepaw, and sometimes spend days of patient labor in scratching and freeing themselves from fleas.

"The marmots make a neighborhood affair of their toilet ceremonies, which are performed with much fervor and zeal. The members of the company form a

Brahma Bulls

High-grade Brahma bulls from our full-blooded Brahma bulls which were imported from India. Also a few carloads of Brahma heifers. Write for prices and description.

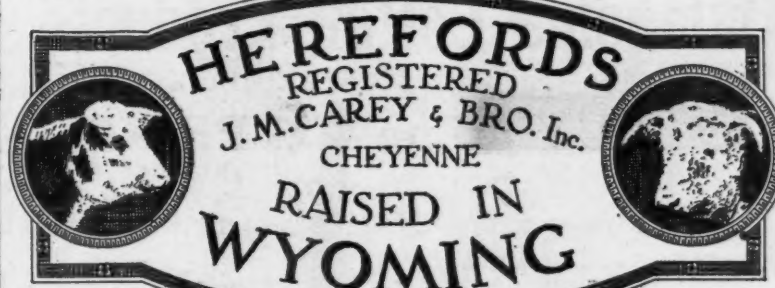
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MONTANA Herefords

FOR SALE
20 Head Registered BULLS

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Breeding. Good size. Good color

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Belgian Horses—Milking Shorthorns
Serviceable rams of above breeds and a few
Shropshire ewes for sale at reasonable
prices. Also a few young Belgian stallions
bred from imported stock, and a few bulls,
milking Shorthorn strain.
Correspondence solicited.

circle and sit erect on their haunches on
a flat stone. Then there is true competi-

tion, for they vie with each other in comb-
ing and scratching themselves.

"A certain species of chimpanzee wash
their faces in cold water at least once a
day. Bats comb themselves very care-
fully, using their nails as combs. They
are careful to part their fur strictly down
the middle of the back. Moles, hedgehogs,
and similar animals comb themselves
with their nails in the same manner.

"Squirrels have a very interesting way
of cleaning their paws. They always hold
one paw with the other while washing
them, and they change so rapidly from
one to the other that they seem to be
rubbing their hands.

"Bears make use of water, rolling and
splashing around in it, and then licking
and scratching themselves with their
nails.

"The elephant is a firm believer in
the advantages of the shower-bath. After
bathing thoroughly, he fills his trunk
with water and proceeds to sprinkle it
over himself as with a hose.

"Turkeys and domestic fowls are the
only birds that shun the water. They
prefer to scratch in the dirt and wallow
in the dust."

FISH-MEAL FOR HOGS

Co-operating with the Bureau of Animal
Industry, the South Dakota Experiment
Station has been conducting tests with
fish-meal as a feed for pigs, for the pur-
pose of ascertaining its value, as com-
pared with tankage, to balance the ration
when the pig was receiving a full feed of
corn.

There were eight pigs in each of the
two lots subjected to the test, averaging
49.5 and 49.8 pounds, respectively, at the
beginning of the experiment. They were
fed for 105 days from self-feeders, and
made average daily gains per head as fol-
lows: tankage lot, 1.42 pounds; fish-meal
lot, 1.49 pounds. For 100 pounds of gain,
Lot 1 required 334.3 pounds of shelled
corn and 36.07 pounds of tankage; Lot
2, 346.8 pounds of shelled corn and 25.48
pounds of fish-meal. Both of these feeds
were highly palatable, and no bad results
were observed.

The fish-meal lot thus consumed more
grain than did the lot receiving tankage,
but the amount of fish-meal consumed fell

Hides, Furs Pelts, Wool

Forty-two years of square deal-
ing have earned for me the con-
fidence of dealers and shippers
in the Western territory, which
is proven by the fact that I
handle more hides direct from
the Farmer and Ranchman than
any concern in the West.

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Paid at All Times**

Ship your Hides to me and you
will become one of my satisfied
customers.

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Shipping Tags.

J. L. BROWN

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DENVER, COLO.

considerably below the amount of tank-
age; indicating that fish-meal is more
valuable, pound for pound, for fattening
pigs than is tankage, when fed as a sup-
plement to corn. The daily gains per
head were as large as could be expected
with pigs of the weights mentioned. At
the close of the experiment all the pigs
were fat and in excellent condition.

LIVE STOCK EXCHANGE ATTACKS MIXED-CARLOAD RULES

A complaint attacking the present rules
applicable to shipments of live stock in
mixed carloads has been filed with the
Interstate Commerce Commission by the
National Live Stock Exchange. It is con-

Oklahoma Cotton Products Trading Company

J. M. Aydelotte, Manager
V. L. Raspberry, Ass't Manager

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

Established 1893

BUY prime 41% PROTEIN cake or meal

BUY prime 43% PROTEIN cake or meal

BUY prime DOUBLE screened PEA size cake 41% and 43% PROTEIN
FOR FEEDING SHEEP

Freight rate too high to buy low grades!

WIRE or WRITE us for your REQUIREMENTS

MEMBERS: American Feed Manufacturers' Association, Interstate Cotton Seed Crushers' Association, Oklahoma Cotton Seed Crushers' Association

tended that these rules require such shipments to be handled on the basis of the highest rate and minimum weight applicable to the government rate, as in the case of most commodities.

The complaint, which is directed against practically all Class 1 railroads in the United States, asks that the defendant roads be required to establish specified mixing rules which the National Live Stock Exchange considers reasonable.

CALIFORNIA CATTLEMEN CONDUCT AUCTION SALES

Cattlemen all over the West have been watching with keen interest the outcome of the auction sales of prime cattle held at various localities in California during the early part of September. These sales were conducted by the farm bureaus, in co-operation with the California Cattlemen's Association, for the purpose of determining whether the marketing problems of the small producer can be solved in this manner. Hitherto, it is contended, the man with a small herd has been at the mercy of buyers. By means of the auction sales it is hoped to get for this class of producers prime cattle prices for their prime stock, instead of permitting the entire herd to be bought at what would be a fair price for feeders.

All the large packers were asked to send their buyers to the sales, and officials of the California Cattlemen's Association were present to assist in carrying out the program.

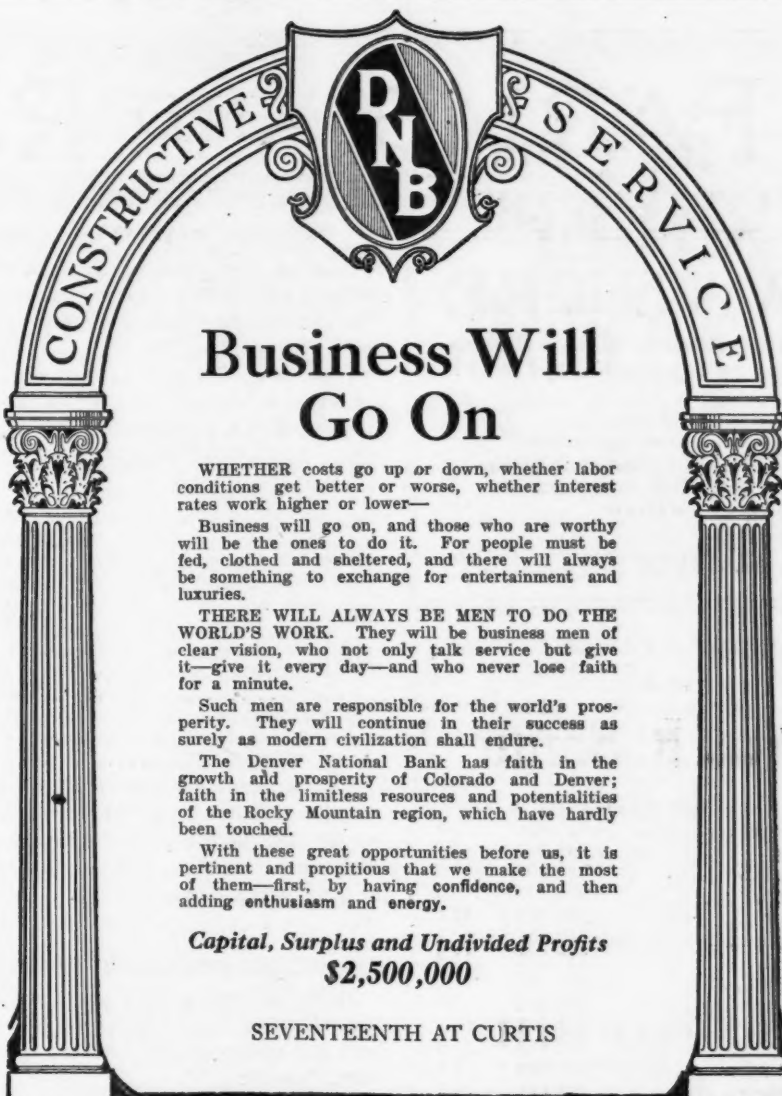
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Business Will Go On

WHETHER costs go up or down, whether labor conditions get better or worse, whether interest rates work higher or lower—

Business will go on, and those who are worthy will be the ones to do it. For people must be fed, clothed and sheltered, and there will always be something to exchange for entertainment and luxuries.

THERE WILL ALWAYS BE MEN TO DO THE WORLD'S WORK. They will be business men of clear vision, who not only talk service but give it—give it every day—and who never lose faith for a minute.

Such men are responsible for the world's prosperity. They will continue in their success as surely as modern civilization shall endure.

The Denver National Bank has faith in the growth and prosperity of Colorado and Denver; faith in the limitless resources and potentialities of the Rocky Mountain region, which have hardly been touched.

With these great opportunities before us, it is pertinent and propitious that we make the most of them—first, by having confidence, and then adding enthusiasm and energy.

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits
\$2,500,000

SEVENTEENTH AT CURTIS

The DENVER NATIONAL BANK

MEAT CUTTERS FAVOR GOVERNMENT-OWNED PACKING PLANTS

Government ownership of meat-packing plants was advocated in resolutions passed by the Amalgamated Meat Cut-

ters and Butcher Workmen of America, meeting in annual convention at St. Louis on August 7. It was contended that such plants could be operated more efficiently and economically under government than under private control.

The Stock Yards National Bank of Denver AND The Denver Cattle Loan Co.

LOCATED IN THE DENVER UNION STOCK YARDS

THE PIONEER STOCKMEN'S BANK OF THE WEST

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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IRA B. CASTEEL, Active Vice-President
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Conversion of The Denver Stock Yards Bank to a National Bank we believe to be in keeping with the growth of the Denver Live-Stock Market

Two institutions that have been prominently identified with the growth and success of the Live-Stock Business in the Mountain States

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WANTED

Going Ranch, Grove Plantation, or Agricultural Land

Offer Chicago gilt-edge income property, valued at \$2,000,000; located in famous, close-in North Side section, near Lincoln Park and the lake. Property consists of two beautiful modern buildings, capable, under the right kind of management, of earning \$100,000 NET per annum, with possibilities of trebling this amount by converting into a hotel, for which there is a constantly increasing demand in this city. \$700,000 mortgage can be obtained. Please submit full, explicit data on what you have to offer.

H. STEIN 228 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, Cal.

OUR TWENTY BIGGEST CITIES

Official census figures, now at hand, give the population of the twenty largest cities in the United States on January 1, 1920, as follows:

	Population	Per Cent Increase
New York	5,621,151	17.9
Chicago	2,701,212	23.6
Philadelphia	1,823,158	17.7
Detroit	993,739	113.4
Cleveland	796,834	42.1
St. Louis	773,000	12.5
Boston	747,923	11.6
Baltimore	733,826	31.0
Pittsburg	588,193	.8
Los Angeles	575,480	80.3
San Francisco	508,410	21.9
Buffalo	505,785	19.4
Milwaukee	457,147	22.3
Washington	437,414	32.1
Newark	415,609	19.6
Cincinnati	401,158	10.3
New Orleans	387,408	14.3
Minneapolis	380,582	26.2
Kansas City, Mo.	324,410	30.6
Seattle	315,652	33.1

DRESSING WEIGHT OF A HOG

How a hog "dresses out" is told in "The ABC of the Packing Industry," a booklet recently issued by the Institute of American Meat Packers. Of the live weight of the animal the full carcass accounts for 76.6 per cent, while the products make up 72 per cent. An average-sized hog of 221 pounds shows the following distribution:

Hams	31
Picnics	12
Boston butts	9½
Clear plates	5
Bellies	31
Fat backs	13
Loins	21
Spareribs	4½
Lard	21
Trimnings	11

Total159

Only a small proportion of the hog is marketed at once; the rest must first be cured, and, in the case of hams and bellies, cured and smoked—a process requiring several months.

RECORD PRICES FOR CATTLE

From the *Breeders' Gazette* we quote the following data relative to top prices paid for cattle of the different beef and dairy breeds:

Aberdeen-Angus—Blackcap Bertram, bull, \$45,000; Blackcap Lassie, cow, \$15,000.
Ayrshire—Auchenbrain Toreador, bull, \$15,000; Lotus Jean Armour, cow, \$8,100.
Guernsey—Florham Leader, bull, \$25,000; Prospect's Rose des Houards, cow, \$17,700.

Cattle Ranch FOR SALE

Desert cattle outfit for sale on reasonable basis; conveniently located as to railroads; 3,500 head of cattle; land, water, and range rights with carrying capacity of 5,000 head, together with good irrigated hay ranch capable of producing 1,500 tons alfalfa hay, centrally located; warm country; no hay required for stock cattle in winter season. This is a low-operating-cost proposition. Dealings will be with owners—no commissions nor middlemen. Would consider a proposition to deal on outfit separate from the hay ranch if preferred. If interested, address

R. C. TURRITTIN,
Constantia, California

THE FARM OF TODAY (London Live Stock Journal)

We've bathed the bullock's tootsies; we've cleaned the rooster's ears;
 We've trimmed the turkey's wattles with antiseptic shears;
 With talcum all the guinea-hens are beautiful and bright;
 And Dobbin's wreath of gleaming teeth we've burnished snowy white.

With pungent sachet powder we've glorified the dog;
 And when we have the leisure we'll manure the hog;
 We've done all in our power to have a barn de luxe;
 We've dipped the sheep in eau de rose; we've sterilized the ducks.

The little chicks are dally fed on sanitized worms;
 The calves and colts are always boiled to keep them from the germs;
 And, thoroughly to carry out our prophylactic plan,
 Next week we think we shall begin to wash the hired man.

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21 years in the Tire business in Denver

Hereford—Richard Fairfax, bull, \$50,000; Clive Iris, cow, \$13,850.

Holstein-Friesian—Carnation King Silvia, bull, \$106,000; Pabst Korndyke Cornflower, cow, \$30,000.

Jersey—Sybil's Gamboge, bull, \$65,000; Fern's Oxford Triumph, cow, \$15,000.

Red Polled—Principal, bull, \$2,300; Peony cow, \$1,050.

Shorthorn—Edgecote Hero, bull, \$50,000; Eighth Duchess of Geneva, cow, \$40,600.

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WORLD'S WHEAT PRODUCTION

Of the total wheat production of the world, Europe harvests more than one-half; but her population is so dense that, in addition to her own crop, she consumes the surplus of all other countries. There are eight important wheat areas, says the *Journal of Agriculture* of Melbourne, Australia: the plains of southern Russia and the valley of the Danube; the countries bordering on the Mediterranean; the plains of northwestern Europe; the central prairies of the United States and Canada; the Columbia River basin of the United States; northwestern India; the pampas of Argentina; southern Australia.

"Of these areas, the Mediterranean countries and northwestern Europe export no wheat. In five of the six remaining regions the population is sparse, the type of agriculture extensive, the land relatively cheap, and wheat free from the competition of more productive crops.

"The following table gives the average annual production (in bushels) of wheat in the more important wheat-growing countries for the five years prior to the war:

Russia	817,000,000
United States	685,000,000
India	350,000,000
France	317,000,000
Austria-Hungary	232,000,000
Canada	197,000,000
Italy	188,000,000
Germany	152,000,000
Argentina	148,000,000
Australia	91,000,000

"The Russian wheat belt is one of the largest fertile regions of land in the world. The predominant soil is the so-called 'black earth.' It is an immense arable plain of great uniformity, and is extremely rich in organic matter. It extends from Bessarabia to the Ural Mountains. The low average yield is due partly to the primitive methods of agriculture, the ignorance of the peasants, and the somewhat erratic rainfall. The future possibilities of Russian wheat production largely depend on the social, economic, and educational progress of Russia. . . . Since the construction of the great transcontinental railway through Siberia, the productive power of Asiatic Russia has become a matter of vital interest. Siberia is nearly twice the size of Australia, and has large areas where wheat could be grown. . . . It is fairly certain that the production of wheat in Siberia will be one of the permanent factors in the wheat industry of the world.

"The greater part of the wheat of the United States is produced in the central prairies and the valley of the Mississippi. Kansas, the Dakotas, and eastern Washington are the three centers of densest production. . . . American production has in the past been a big factor in the world's wheat market, but her population is growing so rapidly that it is probable that she will cease to be an exporter of wheat within another decade.

"Canada's wheat is chiefly grown in the three great prairie provinces of Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Alberta. It is estimated that there are 150,000,000 acres upon which wheat could be profitably

grown. Owing to the cold winters, the bulk of the crop is spring-sown, but winter wheat is grown in Ontario and Alberta. The wheat belt of western Canada is limited on the north by the short growing season, and on the south by the erratic rainfall.

"The wheat belt of India lies in the northwest—the region of greatest extremes of temperature—and three-quarters of the total wheat is produced in the northwest provinces. Wheat ranks third among the crops of India, being exceeded in production by rice and grain sorghums. In the Punjab nearly half the wheat is grown under irrigation. The wheat is usually sown in October, after the monsoon rains, and is harvested from February to April. India consumes nearly all the wheat she produces.

"The Argentine has an enormous area of flat, fertile land, and a climate that permits the land to be worked during most of the year. It is estimated that ultimately 60,000,000 acres of land will be devoted to wheat-growing. . . . The agricultural methods are at present very primitive, and the yield per acre low. Argentina is bound to become a big factor in the world's wheat market, and will be Australia's greatest competitor; for the crops of both countries come onto the world's markets simultaneously.

"Australia's proportion of cultivated land under wheat is the highest in the world. The greater part of the wheat is produced on an annual rainfall of twelve to twenty-five inches. The inner margin of the wheat belt is determined by aridity, and the outer limits by humidity and mountain topography. In 1917-18, 68 per cent of the total area under crop was sown to wheat; that is to say, of the 14,298,982 acres cultivated in the Commonwealth, 9,774,658 were devoted to wheat."

HAY PRICES IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

Average prices for hay in various countries for the first quarter of 1920 have been compiled by the Swiss Agricultural Association. The value in foreign currency has been converted into American money at the rate of exchange prevailing on March 15:

Country	Average Price per Ton
United States	\$22.31
Canada	30.36
Denmark	46.54
England	49.66
France	26.80
Germany	12.31
Italy	21.54
Netherlands	33.57
Norway	38.64
Scotland	49.98
Sweden	33.48
Switzerland	55.34

PIGS IN CHINA

Centuries ago the Chinese discovered that the pig is an efficient machine for manufacturing human food, we are told by a writer in *Wallaces' Farmer*. Nearly every farmer in China keeps from one to five brood sows, and the litters are large.

"In the southern part of China a mixture of half rice chop and half wheat

You Can't Produce Service

unless you have the equipment.

The people are coming to realize that Service comes only through co-operation of Producer and Customer. So, in these days of shortage of equipment, the BEST Service may be obtained by patience, consideration and co-operation.



The Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company

Powers Behn
The Store
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—more
than just style—

Kuppenheimer good clothes are more than mere clothing—more than mere style ideas—they are "good, American masculine appearance." This is the way one New Yorker expressed it.

Better come in and see the new idea and the various adaptations of it.

The fabrics are wonderful. The tailoring better than ever.

And do not forget that these clothes are the cheapest clothes—every way—in the long run.

16th at
California
Denver

bran is fed. The rice chop is always cooked before it is fed. From the time the pigs begin to eat they are fed all they can eat in two or three feeds. In the vicinity of distilleries, distillers' grains (a by-product of the rice-wine industry) form a part of the pig's ration. Vegetables and green-cut grass are also fed. In regions where corn is as cheap and available as rice it forms the main fattening part of the ration. Sometimes rice bran is fed, but, on account of its producing a soft pork when fed with rice as the main grain, wheat bran is preferred.

"At night the pigs are inclosed in a room near that of the owner's living-

Stock Growers'
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You can save from 20 to 40 per cent on your supplies if you will send for our wholesale weekly price list. Remember always that the average salesman can get 25 per cent more for his goods when you are not familiar with his prices. Our prices are all printed in plain figures.

1523 NINETEENTH STREET
Denver, Colo. : P. O. Box 1442
Long Distance Main 7612, Dept. E

quarters. Sometimes a corner of the living-room is fenced off for a sow and her family of pigs. The floor of the pig's quarters is generally paved with brick or flat tile, and is kept very clean. During the daytime the sow and pigs are turned out in the village streets and pastures adjoining the villages, where they pick up edible garbage and find green feed so necessary for good growth. . . .

"It is quite a common practice for the farmer to sell his pigs at weaning time, or a little older, to large hog-feeding establishments, which are often found in connection with distilleries. These hog-fattening plants have a feeding capacity up to three hundred or more animals. Distillers' grains form a large part of the pig's ration in the plants.

"If the distance to market is not great, and the roads are in good repair, the hogs are driven to market. Canals and rivers are numerous in most parts of China, and when the roads do not permit driving (which is generally the case), the hogs are carried to market in bamboo crates on poles by coolies. A pole is run through one side of the crate containing the pig, and a coolie carries at either end of the pole. If the distance is far, and the roads permit, the crated hogs are tied to wheelbarrows and thus transported to market.

"At the market the farmer may sell his hogs directly to the butcher, or sell through a commission man, who makes a charge of a fraction of one per cent of the sale price for his part of the transaction. The latter method is the one generally followed. . . .

"Hogs in different parts of China, and in some instances even in the same locality, vary considerably in type, but, in general, there are the two types—lard and bacon. The bacon type is found in the western provinces, and it is used largely for cured bacon and hams. The Yunam ham, made from the bacon hogs, and named after the western province in which it is produced, is known in all parts of China and in the Philippines for its excellent qualities.

"The lard type is more common than the bacon type. It is the lard hog from southern China that sixty or more years ago supplied much of the foundation blood of the Berkshire and the Poland-China breeds. However, in spite of the early relationship between the lard hog of southern China and these two modern breeds, there is very little resemblance between them today. In south China there are a number of different sub-types or breeds. In the region of Canton a rather large black-and-white spotted type, with drooping ears, prevails. In other regions along the southern coast a small, early-maturing, erect-eared type, almost solid black in color, predominates. The meat of the Chinese lard hog is of fair quality and cures well. However, when fattened on rice chop alone the meat is generally very soft and oily. As a rule, they are fine-boned and smooth, with few wrinkles on their sides. They are slow in maturing." When a year old they generally weigh from 200 to 225 pounds.

"The main objections to this hog are its low dressing percentage, large belly, low back, and weak pasterns, which readily break down in the animal that is being fattened. . . .

"A peculiarity about the lard hogs of

southern China is that they do not have the characteristic kink in their tails, as do the European and American hogs, but have straight, limp tails.

"While the Chinese take good care of their pigs in seeing that they are well housed, fed, and otherwise cared for, they know little, if anything, about modern breeding methods. Some of the sows are fairly good individuals, but the boars are usually very inferior. About the only good thing that can be said about the boars is that they are sure breeders and very prolific. The prevalent idea is that any animal is good enough for a boar. . . .

"In the Chinese villages or cities there are no central slaughter-houses, although they do have market-places for the sale of hogs. The hogs for the day's meat are butchered early in the morning in small butcher shops and delivered to the retail stores. . . .

"Hog cholera is as prevalent in China as it was in the United States before vaccine became available. In the delta region of Canton about 40 per cent of the spring crop of pigs die each year, or are marketed because of this disease. . . .

"According to Dr. Adam Gibson, the colonial veterinarian of Hongkong, tuberculosis is almost unknown among the native hogs of southern China. . . .

"Accurate information on the number of swine in China is not available. The annual crop of pigs is probably about 100,000,000. Eight dollars, in United States currency, is about the price the average pig brings when marketed in China.

"In 1917 the exports of pork and lard from China amounted to \$2,000,000, in United States currency. Prices are comparatively cheap in China, pigs selling at from 6 to 8 cents a pound. . . . Most of the swine exported go to Russia as fresh pork and to England as lard.

"If ocean freight rates are somewhat reduced and Chinese pork continues to be comparatively cheap in price, the exports of pork from China will no doubt increase to a considerable extent. Especially England, through her port at Hongkong, will increase her importations of pork and lard from China. Thus there is a possibility of Chinese pork coming into competition with American pork in the European market."

NEW TREATMENT FOR OX WARBLER

Prevailing methods of treating ox warbles, such as pressure with the fingers, surgical intervention, etc., very often involve serious damage, and the results are relatively unsatisfactory, says a writer in the French periodical *Le Cuir*. A really cheap and effective method, it is declared, consists in the application of empyreumatic oil. Its odor drives off the warble flies and prevents them from laying their eggs on the hairs of the animal; or, if the eggs have already been deposited, they will dry up.

One Worry Removed.—"Well, my dear, I've just had my life insured for five thousand dollars."

"Oh, how sweet of you! Now I sha'n't have to keep telling you to be careful every place you go."—American Legion Weekly.

THE WOMAN'S CORNER

THE PRODUCER invites its women readers to send it contributions, ideas, suggestions for this department. Co-operate with us in making the "Corner" just what you want it to be. Address all communications to Editor Woman's Corner, THE PRODUCER, 515 Cooper Building, Denver, Colo.

SCHOOL DAYS

[Mabel Compton]

SEPTEMBER DAYS, and we hear again the school bell and the children trooping out to play. Most of them get a good deal of enjoyment out of it, in spite of their pretended pity for their plight. But the question, after all, is not so much the amount of pleasure or pain they get out of it, as the mental profit it really affords. In the average country school, where one teacher often has several grades and many classes, it is not fair to expect her to produce very much in the way of results without some earnest co-operation on the part of parents.

The secret of any teacher's success is the ability to hold a child's interest. And there is no basis for interest without complete understanding. A child's mind seeks the why's and wherefore's. No better example is needed than the average boy scratching his head over compound fractions, "cussin' the book and killin' the teacher"—in his mind—when he never had understood the ground principles, the rules and the reasons, in the simplest processes of addition and subtraction, division and multiplication. He goes stumbling and grumbling along because the foundation has never been made perfectly clear to him, or at least has never become really fixed in his mind.

So do not feel, when Johnny wants a little help with his problems, that it is time wasted—that the teacher ought to do that. Perhaps she does as much as she can, and Johnny is only one-fortieth of her responsibility and her problem. Don't imagine that you are too tired or have forgotten all you ever knew. No matter even if it so happens that you don't know a great deal and have forgotten more. You still have acquired in your adult years a great simplifier of problems, mathematical and otherwise, of which Johnny is more or less in ignorance—the power of reasoning. Most children do not naturally know how to study, and it is not surprising that they find school work dull and irksome. If you can help Johnny "ever so little" to understand his problem, he will be more interested in it. And it will help you as well as him, by keeping your own mind active and refreshing your memory.

HEALTH AND CLEANLINESS

Nature has bestowed upon us bountifully three great aids to cleanliness—fresh air, sunshine, and water. If we neglect to use them wisely, we are very much the losers thereby in happiness, comfort, and health. A clean house is a healthful house, and is a good start toward a healthy family. Careless housekeeping is very often the basis of ill-health.

Fresh air is one of the chief means to cleanliness, and necessary to both health and good spirits. Windows should be opened wide every morning, rain or shine. Damp air is better than impure air.

On a cold day it takes only a few minutes to change the air in a room completely; and it is much easier to heat the fresh, clear, cold air than the heavy, close air usually found in houses, especially in cold weather. And, no matter how hot it may be in summer, the air should be

kept in free circulation. When a house is closed up tight, to keep it warm in winter or cool in summer, the air very soon becomes as vitiated as a stagnant pool of water. It is only because we cannot see its foulness that we are so careless of our health as to take its poisons into our systems. We should demur very strongly if we were offered dirty water to drink. Dirty air is no more wholesome. A house full of bad air is the best breeding-place in the world for colds and other infectious diseases. Above all, it is important to have the windows open while sleeping, if one would feel rested and refreshed on waking in the morning, rather than more tired than when he went to bed. If there is only one window in the sleeping-room, it is better to open it a few inches at the top as well as at the bottom. Sleeplessness, morning headaches, pale faces, and anemia are often due to a lack of fresh

air; and lungs that have been kept strong and clean by the habit of deep breathing and pure air are not the ones to invite tubercular trouble.

Next to fresh air comes the glorious, life-giving sunshine. Let every room be flooded with it as nearly as possible. It warms and cheers and heals. A dark house is depressing and unwholesome. A lack of sunshine means lowered vitality. Sickly children, like sickly plants, grow in dark corners. Sunshine is a wonderful germ-killer. Let it into the attic where the old trunks and papers and the broken-legged plush chair are stowed away. By some means let it into the damp, dark cellar to dry and purify. Vegetables and fruits carelessly stored in a cellar are a common menace to health. An unpleasant odor is nature's warning. The cause should be promptly located and removed. And from cellar to garret raise the shades high, open the curtains wide, and let the sunshine in.

The great ally of these two chief agents of household health and happiness is water. Without water it would be difficult indeed to have a clean house. It is the foe of grime and dirt. It does the dishwashing and the scrubbing and the family washing—with the aid of heat and soap and a little "elbow grease." It is our means of keeping our bodies clean, as well as our clothes. The importance of pure water for drinking cannot be overestimated. If doubtful, it should be boiled, strained, and cooled, until it can be examined. That nature has provided such an unfailing fountain of cleanliness must mean that we should use it unsparingly.

How many of us would care to have a health inspector visit our homes and examine them? For those of us who would not it is the surest sign that we need a little self-inspection.

CARE OF THE FEET

Nothing is more trying than tired, aching feet. And a little of the same treatment that is given the face is also good for the feet; that is, a daily bath with soap and warm water, followed by a rinsing in cold water and a good rub with cold-cream. Vaseline will serve the purpose quite well, if cold-cream seems extravagant. It takes but very little at a time, however. This treatment is excellent for keeping the feet in the best of condition. Persisted in, it will prevent and remove calluses and discourage corns.

Wear comfortable shoes. Bunions and corns are caused by shoes that do not fit well. Remove the pressure from a bunion by putting a piece of cotton between the big toe and the next. Repeated applications of iodine will relieve the inflammation and soreness. Corns should not be cut. A small piece of lemon bound firmly

to the toe—the application being repeated for three or four nights—will soften the corn so that it may be easily removed after a warm foot-bath. Alum water is helpful for perspiring feet. A daily bath is the first essential. A little talcum powder, fresh stockings each day, and a frequent change of shoes in addition, will usually afford relief.

RECIPES

Tomato Catsup

Ten pounds of ripe tomatoes. Boil and strain. Return to heat, and cook slowly until quite thick. Add 1 cup of vinegar, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of sugar (preferably brown), $1\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoons of salt, $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of mustard, and a dash of cayenne pepper. Boil up once, and seal in bottles.

Chili Sauce

Peel 1 dozen ripe tomatoes, and chop 2 large onions, 1 small red pepper, and 3 green peppers. Add 1 cup or more of vinegar, according to strength of vinegar and the degree of tartness one prefers; 1 tablespoon of salt, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of sugar, and spices to taste. Boil slowly until thick, being careful not to burn.

Piccalilli

Chop fine 10 pounds of green tomatoes. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of salt. Stand over night, and drain. Add 6 green peppers and 6 onions, also chopped fine; 2 cups of brown sugar, 1 quart of vinegar, and 1 tablespoon each of cloves, allspice, and mustard seed. Cook slowly for 2 hours.

THE LETTER-BOX

Salt will curdle milk. In preparing cream sauces, custard, milk toast, or cream tomato soup, do not add the salt until it is removed from the fire.—A. L.

* * *

Fried chicken may be done to a turn in the oven instead of on top of the range, and is much less troublesome, especially when one is cooking several chickens. Have the chickens ready, cleaned thoroughly, disjointed, dipped in rich milk, then rolled in flour to which salt and pepper have been added. Heat the necessary amount of drippings in a large baking-pan on top of the range. Have it quite hot. Put the pieces of chicken into the pan, brown lightly and quickly, turn, and the pan is ready for the oven. Cover, and cook one-half hour. Remove chicken from pan. Add 2 or 3 tablespoons of flour, salt and pepper to the pan. Stir until light brown. Add 1 quart of cold milk, and let slowly come to boiling-point. Serve small hot biscuits with the chicken and gravy.—Mrs. J. S.

* * *

To keep butter cold and firm without ice: Fill a bowl with cold water. Put butter in plate on top of bowl, cover with napkin, letting both ends drop in the water, and set away in a draft of air.—ALICE BROWN.

* * *

A gravy-boat may be used to advantage in filling jars with fruits or vegetables, saving much of the usual muss and waste attached to the work.—E. T.

* * *

A piece of clean white oil-cloth is a good substitute for a pastry board. It is more easily cleaned and may be rolled up for future use.—A. S.

THE KIDS' CORRAL

SCHOOL BEGINS AGAIN

[Evaleen Stein]

NO DOUBT, by this time, all you boys and girls have started to school again and are busily at work on your lessons. Of course, it was fine to play through the summer, but nowadays there are so many interesting things to learn and do in school that I dare say most of you are not so sorry vacation is over. For it is a great deal nicer to be a school-boy or girl today than if you had lived ever and ever so long ago.

Suppose we could turn back the centuries like the hands of a clock, and you were a Roman boy of, say, about the year 1. You would have to be tumbling out of bed long before daylight, for your school would be beginning soon after the cocks started crowing—and you know cocks wake up outrageously early. Then, when you were dressed, you would not get any breakfast at home, because the grown-ups of your family would still be sleeping. So you would have to start out in the dark, sleepy and hungry, and very likely a trifle cross—for which I wouldn't blame you. If your father was rich enough to own a slave, the slave would walk along with you and carry your lantern and your wax tablet—a flat piece of wood covered with wax, which you would use instead of slate or paper. When you wanted to write down anything, you would have to scratch on your tablet with the pointed end of a kind of metal pencil; its other end would be flat, so you could smooth out the wax with it when you made a mistake in writing. Your slave would carry also your bag of little stones that clinked like marbles—only they wouldn't be! No, you would have to spread them out on your school table and move them around till you had learned to count from them; for in that way you would study arithmetic. Also your slave would bring along some money, so you could stop at a cook-shop on the way and buy something to take to school for breakfast; though you would not be allowed to eat it till after you had worked awhile, and then your things would very likely be only some cold bread and cheese; no oat-flakes and cream, or nice hot muffins or griddle-cakes—poor little chap!

If you were a little Roman girl of the year 1, you wouldn't be going to school at all, but getting a few lessons at home; though much more pains would be taken to teach you to spin and weave and embroider.

Supposing you were living ever and ever so long ago in France, in the time of the great King Charlemagne. If your home happened to be near his palace, you would be going there to school. You would sit on a long bench with a lot of other children, and at the far end of the big palace room there would be King Charlemagne himself and Queen Luitgarde, and a number of grown-up princes and princesses. A monk in a long brown robe would be teaching you, and everybody, from the king down, studying just as hard as ever he could. For there were no schools then except the ones the king himself had started, and, as he was very anxious for everyone to learn something, he had a school in his own palace and set the example by studying as hard as anybody. You would notice that his book was large, with beautiful painted letters, while yours would be a little parchment primer which your teacher had made for you; for nobody had printed books then. And you would have to screw up your face and study very hard, as the words in your primer would be Latin. That would be because the language of France was not yet finished, and no one knew quite how to spell it nor what its grammar was. So you see it was pretty hard for the children.

If you were a little Celtic boy and lived in Ireland about a thousand years ago, you would be trudging off to school in some monastery, where, if the weather was fine, you would sit out of doors in the cloister court. You would have a wax tablet to write on, like the one which the Roman boy had, but no slave to carry it; and each day you would have to learn ever so many wise sayings, and grammar, and geography lessons—these last all in rhyme. You would perhaps have a map to study from, drawn by hand on parchment, which you would think too funny for

anything, if you were not a Celtic boy of long ago. Indeed, if you were a boy or girl of almost any country at that time, you would be taught from the most absurd maps; for everybody was quite sure that the earth was flat and that, if you went far enough, you would certainly come to a jumping-off place. They made pictures of it so on their maps, and jumbled up all the countries in the oddest way; while, as for the sea, often they drew it all around the edge of the flat earth, and some even put in a long sea-serpent curling around it, too. Others, who were not so sure about this, nevertheless painted mermaids and mermen, and strange monsters, and acres of long, trailing weeds that tangled around ships; and you would be taught that you would find things like that if you sailed far enough out. Don't you think Christopher Columbus was a very brave man, and don't you wonder how he ever persuaded anybody to go along when he set out on his voyage? For no doubt many of his sailors, when they were boys, had studied maps like these I am telling you about.

One thing, though, you would gain if you were a school child of long ago: your history lessons would not be half so long; for, of course, quantities of things hadn't happened yet. Dear me, just think how hard it will be for the children of a thousand or so years from now, with history growing longer every minute!

But it wasn't only thousands of years ago that going to school was different from today. Suppose you were an American boy or girl of less than two hundred years back. You would be getting up very early and hurrying off to a log schoolhouse, where you would sit all day on a hard bench, with your toes barely reaching to the puncheon floor. You would be learning to read from a queer little primer, with funny little woodcut pictures of very good little boys and girls at the top of the page, and learning to write with a pen made from a goose feather. If you did not behave properly or study hard enough, your teacher would rap you on the knuckles with a long ruler; if you were *very* bad, he would take down a bundle of birch rods hanging over his desk and switch you soundly. At noon you would probably eat cold corn-bread and pie from your little dinner-pail, and drink from a gourd dipped in the school bucket; and when you went out to play at recess, and indeed all the while, you would have to keep one eye open for any stray Indians who might come whooping along to scalp you.

Heigh-ho! Aren't you glad you are a boy or girl of today instead of long ago?

JOE HENRY AND THE CIRCUS DWARF

[Evelyn Stein]

(Concluded from August number)

"My, how queer to let a cow do things like that!" exclaimed Joe Henry.

"It is queer," said the dwarf; "but, of course, Bessie thinks it's all right, and she gets quite angry when she talks about the way she is treated in this country. She told me that when she first marched in a procession in America she thought the streets were terrible, with so many things rushing by all the time, though it was before automobiles were so plenty. 'And what do you think?' she said. 'I saw something that looked good to eat in a big shop, and I walked over and stuck my head in the window to get it, and something crashed and cut my nose' (Bessie didn't know about glass then); 'and then a big man, with a blue coat and brass buttons and a gold star on him, came hurrying over; but, instead of tying up my nose and getting the things I wanted to eat, he drove me off with a club he carried! Drove me off! Me, a sacred cow! Why, sir, I was so shocked I nearly fainted and could hardly stand up in the procession!'" Here the dwarf laughed. "I could barely keep my face straight while Bessie was talking," he said; "but I managed to somehow, and she went on: 'Indeed, I was so surprised and worn out by such barbarous treatment that I thought I would lie down awhile and try to sleep it off. But no sooner had I stretched myself out across the street than along came a big moving thing—I think they called it a street-car; and, instead of backing away so as not to disturb me, as things do in India, it stopped, and men jumped off and ran up to me and began prodding me, and more of those brass-buttoned men punched me with their clubs, till I had to get up and walk on!' When Bessie got that far she couldn't say any more; her feelings were too much for her." And the dwarf threw back his head with a long "Ha-ha-ha!" And Joe Henry laughed with him.

Then Joe Henry happened to think of another animal he specially wanted to know about, and, as dinner was nearly ready, he hurried to ask: "Are there any reindeer in the circus, sir?"

"Reindeer?" said the dwarf. "Why, to be sure! Ours—"

"Do they ever talk of Santa Claus?" interrupted Joe Henry eagerly. He was very anxious to know, because the winter before a little boy on his street had whispered to him one day that there wasn't any such body. Joe Henry didn't breathe a word of this to the dwarf, but listened with all his ears as the little man went on:

"Talk about Santa Claus? I should think they do! Why, sonny, I was just

starting to tell you that we have the regular team that works for him. Our circus manager made special arrangements to have them travel with us in the summer, and then when winter comes they go up north to him."

Joe Henry breathed a sigh of relief as the dwarf continued: "The reindeer say Santa Claus is the kindest, best-natured, jolliest old fellow you ever saw. There is only one thing that puts him in a temper, and that's when he hears about those smart-Alec children who don't believe in him. He sputters around then, they say, and throws down the toys he is making, and can't work for a while. Then he gets jolly again and smiles and says to himself: 'Very well, if they say there isn't any Santa Claus, there *won't* be any for *them*!' And then he takes all the playthings he had picked out for those silly children and puts them on the piles for the really smart boys and girls who *know* him. And you just ought to see the quantities of toys he has on hand! The reindeer declare there are whole mountains of drums and sleds and dolls and tin horns and popcorn balls and candy, and goodness knows what all. They say, too, that Santa has a lot of interesting stories to tell about how he gets into houses that don't have open fireplace chimneys, but are blocked up with stoves, or maybe have only registers or radiators. Things like that don't seem

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to bother him a bit—he always finds some way to break in. Really, from what they tell me I should think he could give lessons to the cleverest burglar that ever was!"

Just then a gong sounded, and "There," said the dwarf, "that's for dinner; so run along home now, sonny, and get ready for the show this afternoon!" Joe Henry got up slowly, for there were many more animals he wanted to ask about; and the dwarf, guessing this, said: "I suppose there were other beasts you wanted to know about; but never mind! Perhaps next summer our circus will be around again, and we'll have another talk. So good-bye, and good luck to you!" And the little man jumped down and hurried off to his dinner; and Joe Henry went back to his little brown house, feeling that he had found out more about wild animals than even his picture-book could tell him.

THE APPLE-CART

[Evelleen Stein]

"Apples! Apples!" shrill and high
Calls the apple-man, and then
"Apples! Apples! Who will buy?"
High and shrill he calls again.

Come and see his pretty cart,
Piled as high as it will hold—
Apples, apples, sweet and tart,
Ruddy-cheeked and streaked with gold!

Northern Spies, and Rambos, too;
Bell-flowers delicate and fine;
Pippins packed with honey-dew;
Winesaps bursting with their wine.

In the April's lovely light,
Garlanding the orchard trees,
They were blossoms rosy white,
Overhung by honey-bees.

Is it not a wonder strange
That on every laden bough
Through the summer they should change
To such splendid apples now?

THE RAIN-STORM

[Evelleen Stein]

Let us run and get our rain-coats,
And our rain-caps, too;
For in storms like this our plain coats,
They would never do!

Oh, the fun to feel it! Let us
Hurry out the door!
On our faces dash and wet us,
Rain, and pour and pour!

Minus and Plus.—TOMMY—"Isn't 'whole-some' a funny word, father?"

FATHER—"What's funny about it?"

TOMMY—"Why, take away the whole of it and you have some left."—London Answers.

On the Job.—Little Donald, the promising son of a well known automobile man, was intensely interested in the cat on the hearth before the fire. Suddenly he turned and announced excitedly: "Mama, he's got his motor going!"—Successful Farming.

THE POETS' DEN

THE LONELY HEART

[Iris in Chicago Tribune]

The night birds call, the shadows fall
About my door;
The waters creep along to sleep
Upon the shore;
The evening breeze drifts through the trees;
My heart leaps up like flame,
Thinking I hear your voice, my dear,
Whisper once more my name.

A mocking-bird is faintly heard;
The willows sigh;
The waters croon; the crescent moon
Hangs in the sky;
While high and far the evening star
With happiness I see,
Dreaming the while your tender smile
Beams gently down on me.

In vale and hill the birds are still;
The breezes die;
On field and town night closes down;
Dark is the sky;
As all too soon sets the pale moon,
The waters faintly moan.
My eyes are wet—let me forget
That I am here alone.

ROOKS

[Boyce Bowden in Sydney Bulletin]

Like tattered scraps of paper they are flutter-
ing and rising,
And the jargon of their clamoring is very
loud and shrill;
The ebon rooks of England are swift planing
and capsizing
On the current of the silver wind that
whistles from the hill.

Hills of jade, and silver wind and rain across
the ridges;
Slim alders by the river, like a finely pen-
ciled frieze;
The chuckling mirth of water under little
rustic bridges;
And ricks and roofs and chimney smoke
within a cloud of trees.

And over all the ebon rooks are tumbling and
whirring,
And a phrase is whispered, whispered from
the tips of ragged wings,
Till deep within my being I can feel a longing
stirring
For the sea's words and the white birds
and the heart-remembered things.

Ships, and spars of amber, the flowing out
of bunting;
The lift, the sag, the lurching as the
grounder meets the prow;
The loping leagues to windward where the
ocean gulls are hunting,
And here a coaster trudging home, and
there a scudding scow!

Oh, not for me the quiet roof, the firelight in
the ingle,
Where men may wander drowsing down
the easy ways of earth;

Full brother to the ocean, I have felt my
pulses tingle,
For the broad phrase of the sea's ways has
spoken of her worth.

Race of wind and smash of sea, the scuppers
rolling under;
The rush and wash of waters when the
green is in the waist;
The wave that poops the taffrail and comes
roaring down like thunder,
And the clatter aft the deck-house where
an awning is unlaced!

Stress of stormy weather and the tang of
spindrift flying;
The creak and groan of bulkheads that are
straining to the roll—
Oh, daytimes worth the dawning! Oh, the
task well worth the trying!
The hand that rules the ocean has the
ruling of my soul.

And so within the streamway, with its low
and mellow laughter,
I seem to hear the waters lapping round
the massive hulls;
And, though Vision wanders outward, yet my
Fancy follows after,
Till the ebon rooks of England are a flock
of silver gulls.

A BARNEGAT LOVE SONG

[Ethelean Tyson Ga in Scribner's]

I never race the sunrise
To stand beside the sea,
But that the dawn-lit glow of it,
The rosy, dimpled flow of it,
Is telling, love, of thee.
A dimpling sea, a smiling sea,
That flushes mile-on mile!
And, oh, the flower-sweet gleam of it,
The thrill and mystic dream of it—
It's your own lips I'm thinking of,
Your rosy, dimpled smile!

I never stand at noonday
Beside the summer sea,
But that the crystal blue of it,
The radiant, sky-kissed hue of it,
Is telling, love, of thee.
A changeless sea, a tender sea,
So wide and deep and true!
And, oh, the healing balm of it,
The magic, jeweled calm of it—
It's your own eyes I'm thinking of,
Your own dear eyes of blue!

I never stand at evening
Beside the sunset sea,
But that the flaming leap of it,
The purple-misted sweep of it,
Is telling, love, of thee.
A royal sea, a flaming sea,
And rainbow fires above!
And, oh, the glory-light of it,
The far-flung, deathless might of it—
It's your own heart I'm thinking of,
Your golden heart of love!

AS WE GROW OLD

[S. M. S. in Toronto Globe]

As we grow old, how lovely seems the earth;
How gently sets the sun across the fields
we know;
With what a wistful glory comes the birth
Of the dear spring, and with how soft a
glow
The fields grow green; and oh, how tenderly
the rain
Waters the happy fields and brings the but-
tercup again!

As we grow old, how sweet the summers are;
How sweet the sunshine on the golden
wheat,
The evening winds that through the maples
stir,
The autumn's growing like an opal sheet,
And the still snow that laps white hands
above
The sacred place where rests the dust we
love!

As we grow old, how gently die the fires
Of all our once ambitions, of all our once
desires!

NEW ENGLAND SABBATH

[Anchusa in Chicago Tribune]

The smell of pines along the way
To church; a blue glimpse of the sea;
The nearer waters of the bay
Lap at the marsh grass lazily;
Whispering breezes call to me,
Soft-voiced, across the lowland sod,
Like immanent divinity:
"Be still, and know that I am God."

I catch the scent of ripened hay;
I hear the low drone of the bee;
I watch the tiny insects play
On the warm walls in humble glee;
The lichened rocks, the barberry,
The spires of early goldenrod,
All speak in glowing ecstasy:
"Be still, and know that I am God."

Why must man meet this lovely day
With solemn face and anxious knee?
All the earth quivers in the ray
Of the kind sun, and only he
Walks downcast-eyed. More wise than we
Is every bud and bloom and pod.
These hold Creation's secret key:
"Be still, and know that I am God."

Soul of all growing things, to Thee
I raise my spirit's litany.
You answer me from every clod:
"Be still, and know that I am God."

GATES OF PARADISE

[Edwin Markham in Ladies' Home Journal]

Ah, the way was hard, and the wind was cold,
And the fire in the heart was growing old;
Then you shone on the sky like a throbbing
star,
And I saw the gates of the dawn unbar;
You came to me here in this battle of men,
And the horns of Arcady blew again.

Whenever I hear your spirit sing
I feel the touch of a mystic wing;
At the sudden glance of your tender eye
I am up and under another sky;
I have climbed from the dust; I have paid the
price;
I am treading the paths of my paradise!

THE SPICE BOX

Lucky for the Artist.—PERSON WITH ARTISTIC TEMPERAMENT—"The fact is that not one purchaser out of ten knows a good picture from a bad one."

JOVIAL LOOKER-ON (with good intent)—"Bit of luck for some of you blokes, anyway—ain't it?"—London Mail.

Back to the Primitive.—MR. URBANSKY—"I see your boys are having a great time up there on the hill signaling—playing Indians, I suppose?"

FARMER HENLEIGH—"Playing nothing! They're signaling the price of eggs to the next farm—our telephone service is so doldered punk."—New York World.

Playing Up.—"Hiram," said the farmer's wife, "what makes you say 'By gosh!' so much and go round with a straw in your mouth?"

"I'm getting ready for them summer boarders that's comin' next week. If some of us don't talk an' act that way, they'll think we ain't country folks at all."—Boston Transcript.

Two Bad Breaks.—RIGGS (facetiously)—"This is a picture of my wife's first husband."

DIGGS—"Silly-looking guy! But, say, I didn't know your wife was married before she met you."

RIGGS—"She wasn't. This is a picture of myself when I was twenty-five."—Boston Transcript.

Hair-raising.—CUSTOMER—"Why do you keep telling me all these horrible murder stories?"

BARBER—"Well, you see, sir, I find they helps me a lot by making your hair stand on end."—Passing Show (London).

Political Points.—"And whom did you vote for, Miss Sophy?"

"Well, you see, the Republican was simply stunningly good-looking. But the Democrat had always been perfectly splendid to his family, so I marked both ballots, closed my eyes, shuffled them, put one in the box and tore up the other. Nothing could be fairer than that."—Life.

Brute Man.—"I think you are absolutely wrong, Henry, about that furniture."

"Yes, dear."

"And about the wall-paper."

"Yes, dear."

"Now, look here, Henry! If you're not going to be sociable, I'm going to bed!"—Passing Show (London).

In 1920.—HOUSEKEEPER—"Have you any cooks on hand?"

EMPLOYMENT AGENT—"Six in the ante-room."

HOUSEKEEPER—"Ask 'em to look me over and see if there is anybody here I might suit."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Making It Right.—COUNTRY POSTMAN—"I'm sorry, ma'am, I seem to have lost your post-card; but it only said Muriel thanked you for the parcel, and so did John, and they were both very well, and the children are happy, and she'll give your message to Margery. That'll be your other daughter, I'm thinkin'?"—Punch (London).

Wrong Step.—A medical corps officer chanced upon a negro acquaintance of civil life one day in France.

"How do you like the army, Mose?" he asked.

"S'all right so far, cap'n," replied the negro; "but Ah don't know how I'm going to like it when dem Germans shoots at me."

"Don't worry about that," replied the officer. "All you have to do is zigzag." And he demonstrated.

The next time the two met the negro was in a hospital.

"What's the matter with you, Mose?" asked the officer.

"I ain't sure, cap'n, but Ah think I must have been ziggin' 'bout the time Ah oughta been zaggin'."—American Legion Weekly.

Taking Him Literally.—ANGLER (describing a catch)—"The trout was so long—I tell you I never saw such a fish!"

RUSTIC—"Noa. Oi don't suppose ye ever did."—Brisbane Queenslander.

All Drowned.—SUB (very junior)—"I want one of those dogs about so high and about so long. A sort of greyhound; but it isn't quite, because its tail is shorter and its head's bigger, and the legs aren't so long, and the body's thinner. Do you keep that sort?"

DEALER—"No, sir, I don't. I drowns 'em."—Edinburgh Scotsman.

Undecided.—VISITOR—"Why does your servant go about the house with her hat on?"

MISTRESS—"Oh, she's a new girl. She only came this morning, and hasn't yet made up her mind whether she'll stay."—Punch (London).

Fully Prepared.—Danny was looking at a picture of the prophet Elijah ascending to heaven in a chariot of fire. When he saw the halo about Elijah's head he cried: "Oh, look, mama! He's carrying an extra tire!"—Mulvane News.

More Below.—COUNTRYWOMAN (her first glimpse of the sea)—"Ain't it astonishin'. Willium? Who'd 'ave thought theer could be as much water as that?"

WILLIAM—"Yes; an' remember, Maria, ye only see what's on top."—Punch (London).



WILSON'S
Certified
Ham

*Appetizing foods help make
the sturdiest youngsters*

HEALTH authorities everywhere are emphasizing the necessity of body-building foods for the growing children of today. Wilson products, carefully selected and skillfully prepared, are just the kind of foods that make strength and vitality.

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after they have been vaccinated with cheap vaccines, just remember that the old reliable O. M. Franklin Blackleg Aggressin will save the ones that are left. So, when other immunizing agents fail to give you protection, try the

O.M. Franklin Blackleg Aggressin

and be convinced of its superiority, as numerous others have been. A safer and more economical plan is to use it in the beginning. The loss of one yearling will pay the difference in cost for a good-sized herd.

THE FOLLOWING IS ONE OF MANY LETTERS IN OUR FILES TESTIFYING TO ITS SUPERIORITY:

MR. HALL MEDFORD,
Manager Kansas Blackleg Serum Co.,
Amarillo, Texas.

Amarillo, Texas, April 24, 1920.

Dear Sir: Replying to your letter of the 21st, will state that I have been using 6,000 to 8,000 doses of the O. M. Franklin serum each year for several years. I have tried several times to experiment with other vaccines, but have always had to go back and vaccinate again with your serum, as the others were not satisfactory.

I am perfectly satisfied that the O. M. Franklin serum put out by your company is the best made. I know it is perfectly reliable, and your service the very best.

Anyone making the statement that I am using other Blackleg vaccine is very much mistaken, and I am writing this so that you may know just where I stand.

Wishing your company continued success, and with kindest personal regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

(Signed)

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fore be sure that you find this
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subject to imitation. There-
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Price, 40 cents per dose; for 10 cents additional per dose we issue a written guarantee against loss from blackleg. Comes ready to use in 5, 10, 20, 45 and 90-dose bottles. Our special syringes, \$3.00. Free booklet on request. Order through our local agent or from our nearest office

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